



# THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE

ANNUAL REPORT



1993-94

RSPNPub-12



# THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE

## ANNUAL REPORT 1993 - 1994

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Project Wise Expenditure Statement for the period ending April 1994  
As Audited

Expenditure Head	RSPN	Eco-Tourism	Art & Env.	IUCN	SNV	Env.Edn.	Fuelwood	Stream Project	Eco-workshop	Citizen's Report	Total
Salary	441000.00				122400.00					20000.00	583400.00
Provident fund	47958.00				5100.00						53058.00
Black-necked crane	4800.00										4800.00
Telephone/fax	87116.93	2047.50	321.50			25484.00				11315.00	89485.93
Vehicle maintenance	110909.55				15145.00			3717.00			151425.55
Furniture	38380.00										38380.00
Office Supplies	84424.90	1417.50	6319.00	5020.00	30448.42	6555.00	100225.00	120197.56	9694.00	12808.25	377109.63
Office maintenance	25844.30										25844.30
Postage/telegram	1347.00		6630.00	96.00	3400.00	1119.00					12592.00
Parttime recruitment	8876.00					15000.00				149200.00	173076.00
Hire of vehicle					7200.00		5100.00		2351.65	114842.50	129494.15
Consultancy charge	30850.00	60000.00								20000.00	110850.00
Advance	34318.00					30000.00					64318.00
TA/DA					21931.30	104061.00	10923.00	49532.00	23780.20	51198.00	261425.50
Office equipment					91795.00	13500.00					105295.00
Food & lodge				4271.00		38879.30	12655.48		199665.97	33513.00	288984.75
Printing			138679.00		119870.00				22996.00		281545.00
Periodicals					4338.00						4338.00
Training					75933.00						75933.00
Prizes			2450.00		1010.00	6270.00					9730.00
Nature clubs						76498.00					76498.00
Misc. expenses	43646.30		134.95						3976.00	13301.05	61058.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>959470.98</b>	<b>63465.00</b>	<b>154534.45</b>	<b>9387.00</b>	<b>422637.72</b>	<b>393299.30</b>	<b>128903.48</b>	<b>173446.56</b>	<b>262463.82</b>	<b>426177.80</b>	<b>2993786.11</b>
Funds Received	1082322.00	82000.00	129951.30	31000.00	518702.00	457750.00	127587.53	204000.00	262463.82	600000.00	3495776.65
Balance	122851.02	18535.00	-24583.15	21613.00	96064.28	64450.70	-1315.95	30553.44	0.00	173822.20	501990.54

The deficit in the Art & Env. and the Fuelwood projects have been adjusted from the Env. Education fund.  
The balance of Nu. 30,553.44 in Stream Project has been refunded to UNICEF





དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

National Environment Commission  
Royal Government of Bhutan  
THIMPHU/BHUTAN

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## FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to write this foreword to the organisation's first ever Annual Report. It is with delight and, I must add, with pride that I have watched the Society grow from its early days to what it is today, a well established and effective organisation that complements government efforts in initiating environmental endeavours in the field.

I am especially heartened to see that, during my absence, under the able stewardship of Dasho Sangay Thinley, the Joint Secretary of the Forest Division, positive developments have taken place in the RSPN both in terms of infrastructure and scope of activities. The institution has matured into a viable entity, adequately staffed and equipped and involved in a number of far reaching programmes.

The RSPN has been favoured by the generous and unstinting support it has received from the Royal Government of Bhutan under the enlightened leadership of His Majesty the King. The Society has, in the past, acted, and still does, as an extension of the RGOB in the implementation of environmental policies. In my present capacity at the NEC, I look forward to a continuation and enhancement of the role of the RSPN in the conservation of the rich bio-diversity that is our Kingdom's heritage.

Dasho Paljor Dorji

Deputy Minister for Environment





# Royal Society for the Protection of Nature

## President's Message

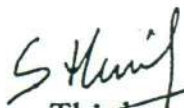
I am extremely pleased to note that the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature is publishing its first ever Annual Report. A report of this kind is a clear indication of the maturity of an organization and the RSPN, *ipso facto*, can thereby attest that it has come of age. The inclusion of an audit report further strengthens the credibility of the only environmental NGO in the kingdom.

The Report, which recapitulates the past activities of 1993-4 and previews the projected activities of 1994-5, reveals the extent to which the RSPN is realizing its twin objectives of creating awareness in the government and among the general public and of Institutional self sustainability.

The RSPN has, to date, focused its efforts on the formal education sector through the establishment of Nature Clubs, publications targeted at youth and art & essay competitions. However, of late, the Society has broadened its scope of activities and made inroads into the non-formal sector, *viz.*, the wider community through the current Citizen's Report Project, environmental campaigns, and through the media, *i.e.*, the BBS and Kuensel.

Much, nonetheless, remains to be done particularly in the latter, a limitation appreciated by the RSPN and incorporated in its long term plans. As an NGO, the Society must solicit its funds from outside donors and, in this regard, owes a debt of gratitude to the MacArthur Foundation, WWF, SNV (Netherlands), and the Canadian Cooperation Office. With their generous support, the RSPN has advanced from its fledgling stages to its present relatively full grown form.

Bhutan is blessed with an environment which is almost a model to the world and, under the enlightened leadership of His Majesty the King, is determined to keep that way. The establishment of the National Environment Secretariat, the Forestry Act, National Parks, etc., are all expressions of the importance placed on the environment by the RGOB. In this larger context, the RSPN's role has been small and supportive but no less significant and may it continue it to be so in the days to come.

  
Sangay Thinley  
President of RSPN



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The last year has seen the RSPN involved in a variety of environmental programmes, ranging from basic environmental education in primary schools to more extensive research programmes such as Ecotourism and the Citizen's Report project. It has been indeed an exhilarating year for RSPN with its fair share of successes and failures, hopes and aspirations, development and expansion, but, above all, growth of the organization. Growth as an institution is a fascinating one, because we find ourselves creating and nurturing, guiding and directing the development of the institution at every stage. This is an ongoing process and we at the RSPN are extremely proud to state that we have been a part of this process, of which the results are as yet intangible but nonetheless will in the near future prove invaluable.

The last year also saw the development of an entire new unit within the RSPN. The Communication Unit was introduced and developed to meet the Society's growing need to translate and disseminate information. This unit also plays an instrumental role in bridging the gap between RSPN and its target groups. With the development of this unit, the RSPN, through the generous support of the Netherlands Development Agency (SNV), acquired equipment, developed its infrastructure and now produces six publications annually. Further, the organisation has been able to employ two more personnel for the Communication Unit under the SNV grant which brings the RSPN strength to nine full-time staff.

A comparison of projects and activities implemented by the Society during the past year with that of previous years indicates the growth of the RSPN despite the financial constraints it has faced. While the recent upswing in the growth of the Society is a welcome indicator, there are also potential institutional problems that need to be addressed, especially the RSPN's long-term institutional development and capacity building.

Though still a fledgling organization, RSPN has achieved remarkable success in a relatively short span of time. Its programmes are more diversified and their reach, nationwide. These small successes showed that RSPN could outgrow the limits of just conducting a handful of annual activities to a relatively small beneficiaries group. Today, RSPN finds that it is no longer sufficient to keep conducting the same activities year after year. As Bhutan strives to keep up with the momentum of its seventh five year development plans, the potential for environmental degradation proportionately increases. In that same capacity, RSPN must develop and expand in order to meet the challenge of conserving our natural environment.



I am extremely pleased that RSPN is publishing its first annual report. This in itself is a significant achievement for the Society.

In this report, the past, present and future status of the RSPN are reviewed. While the past provides understanding and lessons (mostly through trial and error), the present provides hope and reality. In this report we hope to give an overview of RSPN that provides insight to the current direction of the organization.

Personally, having been associated with the RSPN for the last five years has been an incredible experience. I can't quite believe that five years have gone by. The years have a knack of prodding you along so impetuously that its hard to resist the momentum long enough to stop and reflect. Except on occasion such as this.

RSPN's achievements over the last one year is due, in part, to careful planning and implementation and the ever unstinting support of WWF. Not to be forgotten, is the solid and flexible funding base provided by the MacArthur Foundation, which continues to provide funds, partly used for institutional support and partly as leverage to secure funds from various other donor agencies.

Although the RSPN has achieved much to its credit, a lot remains to be done. The RSPN is yet to realise its long-term goal of self-sustainability due to several constraints and limitations. Nonetheless, if these needs are met, RSPN can look forward to a bright and exciting future through the decade of the nineteen ninety's and beyond.

**Kunzang Yonten**  
Secretary General



## ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW OF BHUTAN

Situated amongst the world's highest peaks, the kingdom of Bhutan is a landlocked country with an approximate area of 46,500 square kilometres. In the north, the kingdom is bordered by the Tibetan region of China and in the east, west and south by the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam. The population of Bhutan is 600,000 with 40% under the age of 15. The annual growth rate is estimated at 2.5%.

The altitude varies from 160 metres above sea level in the south to 7,550 in the north. As a result, the climatic variations are correspondingly extreme i.e ranging from tropical and sub-tropical in the south to very cold alpine in the north. Bhutan lies astride the Palearctic and Indo-Malayan bio-geographic regions of the world. This unique location along with altitudinal and climatic variations attribute to the tremendous diversity of flora and fauna combined with the serious threat they are facing from a rapidly degrading environment.

Within the physical and biological diversities, Bhutan with 64% forest cover has some of the best remaining representative samples of the unique Himalayan ecosystem. The vegetation varies enormously over short distances, ranging from tropical broadleaf forests to temperate conifer forests, to alpine scrubs and meadows. In addition, a rich assortment of medicinal herbs dot the country as do over 600 species of rhododendron and numerous varieties of oak. These forests provide habitats for a variety of faunal species such as tigers, elephants, greater one-horned rhinoceros, golden langur, blue sheep, musk deer, wolves, leopards, takins, snow leopards, hispid hares, pigmy hogs, red pandas, black necked cranes, monal pheasants, lammergeirs (bearded vultures) and tragophans, many of which are listed by IUCN as threatened or endangered.

Over 60% of Bhutan is under forest cover and Bhutan is committed to conserving it. The respect of the people and culture for nature and the government's commitment to environmental conservation presents great opportunities to work towards the realization of the concept of sustainable development.

The four main catchment rivers that run north to south all feed into India. The hydro-electric potential of these rivers is very strong. Electricity is already Bhutan's largest export which may be attributed to the Chukha Hydel project which is built on the Wang chu. The country is rich in mineral waters and underground springs of which none has been commercially tapped.

Majority of the Bhutanese population depend on agriculture. 16% of the total land is used for agricultural production, including dryland and irrigated crop production and orchards. Most rural households own livestock which are grazed in the forest areas and pastures. There is localised erosion in areas of dense population, alongside the national road system, and areas of deforestation and extensive grazing.

Main non-renewable resources include dolomite, gypsum, slate, limestone, marble, graphite, quartzite, and modest findings of copper, iron, coal and gold. Out of these, coal, limestone, dolomite, gypsum and quartzite are mined for domestic use and export.

The main religion of Bhutan is Buddhism. Hinduism is another important religion which is more prevalent in the southern part of the kingdom. The aspirations towards enlightenment and the belief on the innate goodness of human beings is shared among the Bhutanese people. The cultural and social aspects of the Bhutanese society presents a harmonious co-existence of the people with nature.

With total road network measuring 2,674km, all twenty districts (Dzongkhags) are connected by the main motor routes consisting of an east west highway and three north south highways. Major towns and villages are also connected by motor roads. However, majority of the settlements (rural) are cut out from each other and can be reached only by mule tracks, foot trails, cantilevers and suspension bridges. Therefore, animal transport is very prevalent in the rural areas of Bhutan. The national airline, Druk Air is the only air transport which connects the only Paro airport to Dhaka, Katmandu, Delhi, Calcutta and Bangkok.

Telecommunication facilities consist of telephone, telegraph, facsimile, telex and civil wireless. Civil wireless connects all the districts and international fax/telephone services have been recently introduced in few districts.

The seventh five year plan of the Royal Government stresses the need for people's participation in developmental activities and has introduced privatisation policy to spur the country's economic growth. Simultaneously, environmental conservation as a means to lead the country on the path to sustainable development has been very much emphasised.



## Environmental issues in Bhutan

Although Bhutan has 64% of its land under forest cover which includes approximately 20% under protected parks, reserve forest and protected areas, there are several environmental problems. Yet, the magnitude and extent of environmental problems have not reached catastrophic proportions. Nonetheless, in many respects, Bhutan is far from an environmental model as the kingdom shares severe environmental problems with much of the world.

The growing population and the demands of the rapid development processes is very high when compared to the total arable land (.245 persons per square kilometre). The geographic limitations have led to increasing pressure on the available natural resource base by way of trying to get the the best out of what is available, which in some cases have proved to be unsustainable. The per capita consumption of fuelwood is estimated at 2.4 cubic metres per person per annum, which is one of the highest in the world. Overgrazing in the ecologically fragile high altitude areas due to increasing livestock population are encroaching upon wildlife habitats and causing soil erosion. Soil erosion alongside roads is predominant due to the fragile Himalayan ecosystem. The unsustainable practice of 'Tseri' or shifting cultivation especially in the east has led to extensive deforestation which is further added upon by the use of lemon grass for the extraction of oil. The peoples' practice of setting up forest fires in order to get enough fodder for their livestock in the following season, has much contributed to the deforestation and soil erosion. Over reliance and improper use of pesticides, chemical fertilizers, and other harmful components that endanger farmers and food chain alike have led to overall decline in soil fertility. Due to the limited forestry personnel and proper management plans, the forest guards face difficulty in protecting the forests from organised poachers targetting wildlife and valuable trees. As it is, the alarming decrease in the number of one-horned rhinoceros in the Manas wildlife sanctuary is a matter of concern.

With the development processes occurring at a very fast rate, the growth of urban centres and facilities in such centres have led to unprecedented rural to urban migration which was not possible prior to the establishment of the national road system, schools and institutions. General problems relating to rapid growth of urban centres are arising. Improper sanitation, unclean and inadequate water supply, outbreak of diseases, improper waste disposal, increasing number of vehicles plying, and increasing use of refridgerators indicate birth of environmental problems. The growth of industries, initiation of new projects and their impacts on the environment are the areas of concern. Action to consider likely environmental impacts of projects from the stage of project appraisal to the implementation period is being included in the mandate for the National Environment Commission(NEC).

Socio-cultural problems such as the younger generation adopting western styles of enjoyment leading to consumption of tobacco and drugs, gang fights and robberies are surfacing. The change in peoples' attitude towards a more materialistic world is evident. Vandalising the religious stupas(Chortens) and monasteries for antiques and selling them outside the country indicate the severe religious and cultural degradation.

Tourism industry in Bhutan is growing and so is the concern about its impacts.



## Environment policies and programmes in Bhutan

The seventh five year plan of the Royal Government of Bhutan places strong emphasis on environment conservation and sustainable development. Some of the indications of the Royal government's policy on environment protection are given below:

- ♦ The Paro declaration of 1990 demonstrates the government's commitment towards sustainable development.
- ♦ The establishment of Bhutan Environmental Conservation Trust Fund (BECTF).
- ♦ Donors funding and providing direct support to environmentally active offices such as the Department of Forest, the National Environment Commission, the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature(RSPN) and their environmental projects.
- ♦ Many environmentally related projects being implemented by international organisations such as Save the Children Federation(SCF), Netherlands development agency(SNV), etc.
- ♦ The existence of a number of acts and laws pertaining to environmental protection.
- ♦ Conducting Environment Impact Assessment(EIA) and development of environmental strategy as part of the mandate of NEC.
- ♦ The environmental education and awareness programmes of RSPN.
- ♦ Development of a protected areas network by the DOF and WWF.
- ♦ Social and community forestry programmes of the country.
- ♦ Agricultural policy on 'Renewable Natural Resources'(RNR).
- ♦ Existence of Natural Resources Training Institute (NRTI), Bhutan Forestry Institute(BFI) and introduction of environmental studies in Sherubtse college.
- ♦ Radio transmissions on environmental subjects by the Bhutan Broadcasting Service(BBS).
- ♦ Integration of environmental components in the school curricula.
- ♦ Signing of the bilateral agreement on sustainable development between the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Royal Government of Netherlands.



## ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE

### Background

The Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN) is the brainchild of Dasho Paljor J. Dorji, its President. The Society was established in 1986 under the Royal patronage of His Majesty, the King of Bhutan, who is a staunch advocate of bequeathing a clean and healthy kingdom as a legacy for future generations.

The RSPN is the first Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in Bhutan to exclusively concern itself with the environment. By virtue of its being a non-profit NGO, the RSPN must solicit funds from philanthropic societies to effectively function.

The principle objective of the Society is to raise the level of awareness on conservation issues both within the government and among the general public so as to enable the wise management of the rich natural heritage of Bhutan. In keeping with this goal, the Society has been co-ordinating and developing activities to increase environmental consciousness among all levels of people and educate them about the hazards of bio-degradation. In order to reach people from every walk of life, the Society has been actively involved with key organisations like the National Environment Commission (NEC), the Departments of Forestry and Education and the World Wildlife Fund.

#### Some of the activities and programmes initiated by the Society are:

- ♦ training amateur naturalists
- ♦ art and environment projects
- ♦ environmental award scheme
- ♦ environmental campaigning
- ♦ surveys of protected areas
- ♦ teacher training workshops
- ♦ seminars/workshops
- ♦ rural education and social forestry programmes
- ♦ environmental awareness camps
- ♦ promoting school environmental clubs
- ♦ integrating environmental issues into the school curriculum.
- ♦ publications
- ♦ public relations
- ♦ eco-tourism
- ♦ films on nature
- ♦ membership
- ♦ printed and visual reference facility
- ♦ observance of environmental events



**Goals:**

1. To promote in the government and the public an awareness of, an active participation in the sustainable management of Bhutan's natural resources, and protection and conservation of the rich biodiversity of Bhutan.
2. To encourage and instill in the public a sense of respect for the social, cultural, natural and religious values of the nation and to pursue active participation towards retaining this heritage.
3. Self sustainability of RSPN in the long run.

**Objectives:**

1. to promote and encourage study and research, understanding and action relating to all phases of conservation of natural resources throughout Bhutan.
2. to act as a "watch dog" to government policies, and bring to the attention of the government environmental problems and where possible assist in their solution.
3. to collect information from the concerned government and private agencies, and nature clubs to serve the purpose of a data based resource centre for environmental concerns.
4. to develop links with International Organizations, universities, scientists, Aid agencies and government departments.
5. to develop a reference library with a comprehensive collection of books, scientific papers, periodicals and other reference materials for students, members and the general public.
6. to design, co-ordinate, and promote community involved environmental projects that contribute to the welfare of the present and future generations.
7. to co-ordinate and promote activities, events and campaigns on days such as Earth day, World Environment day, Social Forestry day, World Birdwatch day, etc.
8. to develop an effective environment education program through school curriculum and community; to establish an effective network of nature clubs through out Bhutan to create awareness and concern about the environment and focus on the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations and commitment to work individually and collectively towards solution of current problems and prevention of new ones.
9. to promote awareness and involvement with the public by establishing a strong membership drive.
10. to ensure that right communication strategy is adopted for target groups at all levels through strengthening of the communications unit.
11. to strengthen the organization's Administration and Management for effective implementation of all projects and activities.
12. to raise funds both locally and internationally from aid agencies, members, donations and various strategic fund raising schemes.



## Statement of need

The Royal Society for the Protection of Nature is the sole local environmental NGO in the country. As the nation forges rapidly ahead in quest for economic development, the stress on the country's environment and the pressure to open up and exploit its natural resources in order to maintain its development velocity will become tremendous. Unfortunately, there is a lack of an educated opinion about the environment and the absence of resources, both in manpower and materials as well as financial resources to confront these growing threats.

Though the Royal Government has given top priority and importance to conservation and wise management of its natural resources, which is reflected in its development policies, adoption of the sustainable development concept, and the initiation and establishment of a Trust Fund for Nature Conservation, it is still apparent that the Royal Government's efforts are severely limited, bound by several inter-linking constraints. Especially now, with the Royal Government having recently embarked upon the nation's largest developmental undertaking (seventh five-year plan) and hence, does not possess the resources needed, nor the trained personnel required, to successfully implement such a massive and diverse program (concerning the environment and all its aspects), without any support or assistance from the public, grassroots, private sector and non-governmental institutions / organizations.

The absence of such participatory institutions at the grassroots, citizen's and non-governmental level has led to the present unrealistically high dependence on, and expectations from, the Royal Government. Which in turn has resulted in the misleading public notion that, the responsibility of the environment and its future quality lie entirely in the government's domain.

Thus, this presents unique challenges for conservation in Bhutan, where population growth, coupled with a rapidly developing economy dependent on natural resources to a large extent to maintain its development velocity creates tremendous environmental stress.

The Royal government has time and again stressed that economic development will not be pursued at the expense of the environment. While the government has expressed and demonstrated its support for conservation by delivering environmental services and providing alternatives, yet it cannot successfully undertake such mega responsibilities alone, on the scope that it is expected to.

These constraints that have been limiting the Royal Government's efforts, have given rise to the need for alternative delivery systems, commonly known as Non-Governmental-Organizations (NGO) Which is a relatively new phenomenon in Bhutan.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN) was organized and established as such an organization, as a result of this "Felt need" and has become by and large, a partner of the Royal Government in delivering services particularly to the country's environment, wildlife, flora and fauna, especially in the field of promotion of environmental awareness, education, protection, preservation and conservation.

It was with these in mind that the idea of establishing RSPN was conceived and this idea was transformed into reality with the birth of RSPN in 1987, as the sole non-governmental, nonprofit organization dedicated to environment, conservation and allied concerns in Bhutan.



Over the years RSPN has come to realize that, no effort, no matter how enthusiastic the response of the government or for that matter any other agency, is valid and meaningful unless it enables the grassroots, farmers, locales and indigenous communities to identify, understand, and get actively involved in the solution of their present problems and prevention of new ones. If the desired outcome of the conservation initiatives are to be attained, peoples support and participation need to be encouraged and promoted, this RSPN envisages would be the key factor to success or failure, expected and actual results. Thus the premium on local peoples participation.

NGOs all over the world have proved that citizen's participatory institutions are far more effective in promoting awareness and getting people to change their views, values, and their immediate socio-economic conditions. Theoretically, in a way it helps reduce the debilitating dependence on the Royal Government. Further, it is imperative that citizen's participatory institutions that are non-governmental (such as RSPN), exists to evaluate, monitor and implement environmentally sound programs. Not from a development biased view or purely from a financially sound, cost effective perspectives, but rather from an environmental, social and cultural perspective that takes into account the long-term environmental, social and cultural costs instead of short-term economic gains. Under public gaze and scrutiny, national environmental interests would become less prey to indiscriminate and exploitative factors that could have very damaging and long-lasting, irreversible negative impacts.

RSPN was established as an NGO so that it could make a greater and more effective contribution to the environment, with the aid of certain flexible organizational advantages that exists only in NGO's, such as :

- ◆ Their relative smallness, which greatly reduces bureaucracy and enhances their capability to respond to environmental needs more quickly.
- ◆ Their greater freedom from centralized structures, which contributes to their capacity to innovate.
- ◆ Their more limited geographic focus, which allows them to be more familiar and have more rapport with beneficiaries and targeted groups.
- ◆ Their greater immersion in the communities they serve, which enables them to penetrate deeper into the core of problems and needs.
- ◆ Their greater flexibility which enables them to accommodate any suitable method of implementation and operation.
- ◆ Their ability to voice and express criticism to any contradictory policy, issue or environmental concerns.

These characteristics have been practiced and used by RSPN in no small measure, and have been the determinants to the success of several projects and activities undertaken by RSPN.

However, the need exists, to develop the capabilities and capacity of RSPN (the only citizen's participatory institution in Bhutan that is dedicated to environmental concerns), to expand its effectiveness, as well as viability, to better complement governmental efforts which, because of scarce resources, organizational limitations inherent in any bureaucracy, and the vast scope of its operations to accommodate innumerable concerns, tend to be spread rather sparsely.



## INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### I. Institutional Support

In order to work towards its long term goals, the RSPN requires institutional support throughout its planned period. The relatively intact environment of the kingdom of Bhutan and therefore a general lack of awareness about environment issues are some of the factors that contribute to lack of immediate local support for environmental organisations such as the RSPN. It may therefore be foreseen that the RSPN must rely in its preliminary stages on outside donors such as John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation of the United States.

Given below is the budget breakdown and justification for RSPN institutional Support for the fiscal years 1995-96 to 1997-98 i.e., three years. The funds under this budget heading will be utilised only for strengthening the administrative and management capabilities and to facilitate effective functioning of all projects and activities of the organisation through constant monitoring and evaluation. Institutional Support may be further subdivided into :

#### A. Salary and Provident Fund

Presently RSPN has eight regular staff of which two are paid under the publication project (KSP project) funded by the Netherlands Development Cooperation (SNV), due to expire in April 1996.

The Proposed salary for the RSPN fiscal years 1995-96, 1996-97, and 1997-98 is given in the Appendix II.

#### STAFF MEMBERS:

A. K. Yonten -	Secretary General -	Bachelor of Arts
B. L. Dorji -	Program/Administrative Officer -	Bachelor of Arts
C. K. P. Demma -	Asstt. Adm. Officer -	Diploma in Computer Programming
D. M. Rai -	Driver/Messenger -	Licensed to drive
E. M. Wangdi -	Education Officer -	Diplomas in Pedagogy & Environmental Education
F. P. Sharma -	Asstt. Education Officer -	Diplomas in Pedagogy & Environmental Education
G. P. Dorji -	Audiovisual Graphic Designer -	Professionally Trained
H. H. Tshering -	Communications Officer -	Diploma in Computer Programming
I. J. M. Chiramal -	Editor -	Bachelor of Science (Chemistry) & Education
J. ....	Accountant	A qualified and experienced person is shortly to be employed.

#### Full time staff

The annual increment provided for the regular staff is Nu.100 irrespective of their designation except for the Secretary General for whom it is Nu.150. It may also be noted that the annual staff salary is calculated for thirteen months. According to RSPN service rules, a staff is entitled to a month's earned leave and perks of which the only one currently affordable is the Provident Fund benefit of 10% of gross salary. (cf. appendix III) However, the organisation cannot afford to sanction such leave due to lack of manpower. At the same time, budgetary provisions do not include compensation. This provision has been incorporated into this proposal as there are few facilities the RSPN can offer. Therefore, the annual salary is calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Monthly pay} \times 12 + \text{Monthly pay} \text{ or } 13 \times \text{monthly pay}$$



## OTHER EMPLOYEES

### Editor and Graphic Audiovisual Producer

Salary for the Editor and Graphic Audio Visual Producer has been included only from the fiscal year 1996-97 as they will be paid under the KSP project funded by SNV (Netherlands) due to lapse in April 1996.

RSPN has another two staff in the field who monitor the rare and endangered Black Necked Cranes during the winter and are paid for six months only as they have no work during the summer when the cranes are in Tibet.

### Messenger

Since its establishment, RSPN did not have a messenger. As a result the work of messenger was somehow managed by the staff as there were less activities and projects implemented. Now that the sphere of its activities and projects have increased, the post of messenger is necessary and therefore proposed.

### B. Infrastructure development

- The RSPN is presently housed in premises allocated by the Royal Government of Bhutan in 1990. The tenure of its occupancy however cannot be guaranteed as the present location falls in a rapidly developing urban area. In view of this, it is necessary that the RSPN be housed permanently on its own premises thereby reducing its dependence and enabling it to function as a true NGO. RSPN seeks therefore technical, by way of consultancy services, and financial support from MacArthur Foundation to help RSPN set up its own infrastructure.
- The procurement of equipment pertinent to its activities and facilities is another major expenditure entailed.
- As the RSPN functions at fundment in the field, mobility is a prime requisite. Presently, it possesses two vehicles in their fourth year of service but with the expansion of its sphere of activities over a period of time, more means of conveyance will be required both for administrative and project purposes.
- The RSPN is currently staffed by nine personnel and their salaries and allowances fall under this category of expenditure. Future projections include more recruitment both at Headquarters and in the field.

### C. Capacity building

With the expansion of the scope of RSPN activities and spiraling environmental concerns, staff and institutional potential needs must be continually upgraded. This may be effected through:

a. **Human Resource Development**, which includes seminars, workshops, in-service training, study tours, scholarship funds, and the like. Since the RSPN conducts a number of the above, this will enable "training for the trainers" so as to ensure its effectiveness in the role.

b. **Resource Material Procurement**, which includes books, magazines, journals, video tapes, slides, etc..

c. **Exchange Programs**, which include 'twinning' with sister environmental organizations elsewhere with a view to exchange and share relevant ideas and information.

d. **Resource Centre Establishment**, which includes updating the depository of printed and projected materials in conjunction with the undertaken data bank project.



## ACTION PLAN FOR INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
<b>Infrastructure:</b>			
Technical consultancy for management	----->		
Office building including furnishings	-----	-----	----->
Vehicle for Administrative purposes	▣	—	—
Vehicle for field purposes (program monitoring)	▣	—	—
<b>Capacity building:</b>			
Human Resource Development	-----	-----	----->
Resource material procurement	-----	-----	----->
Exchange Programmes	-----	-----	----->
Resource Centre development	-----	-----	----->
Technical consultancy for projects		----->	

## Monitoring and Evaluation:

The impact of any project can only be measured through periodical monitoring and evaluation. This continual check enables the project executant to constantly improvise and improve on its progress. The nature of the project will termine the frequency of the assessment process.

A number of RSPN inspired activities, the protection of the rare and endangered black necked cranes, eco-tourism, naturalist training and the clean up campaigns, to name but a few, have manifested almost immediate positive feedback. However, the major emphasis of the society had focussed on environmental education as the programme was directed towards the younger generation who represent the future of the kingdom and its influence is not perceptible in the short run. Nonetheless, a growing awareness has arisen among the target group in so far as exhibitions, debates, quizzes, nature treks, etc evidence.

In view of our past inadequacies in this essential aspect of project implementation, the RSPN is hereby resolved to adopt a systematic and appropriate monitoring and evaluation technique within the framework of the project.

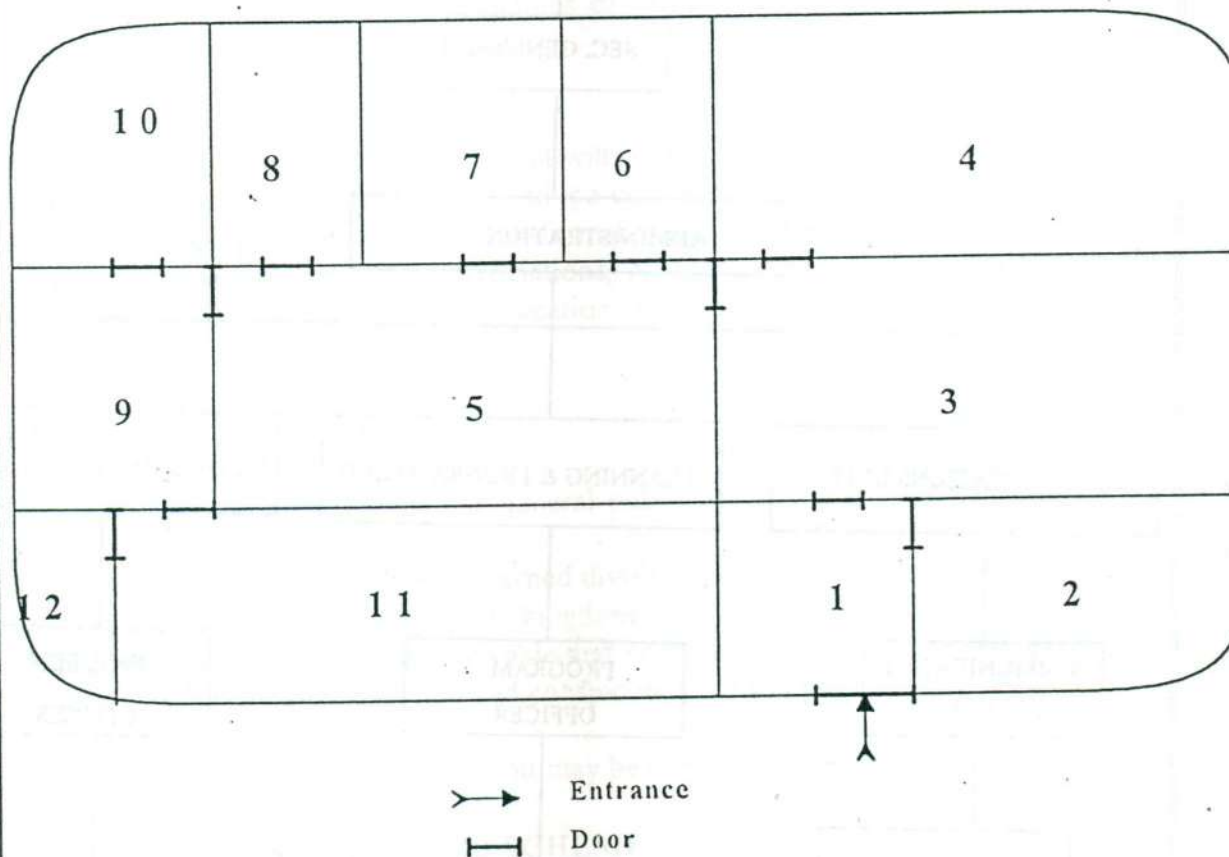


## ORGANIZATIONAL SET-UP

### Introduction

The RSPN has come a long way institutionally since its early days when staffed by two and operating out of a private residence. Thanks to the RGOB's generous gesture in allocating the present premises to the RSPN and the WWF- MacArthur Foundation's financial support for infrastructure development, the Society is a fairly well-equipped and sufficiently staffed organization.

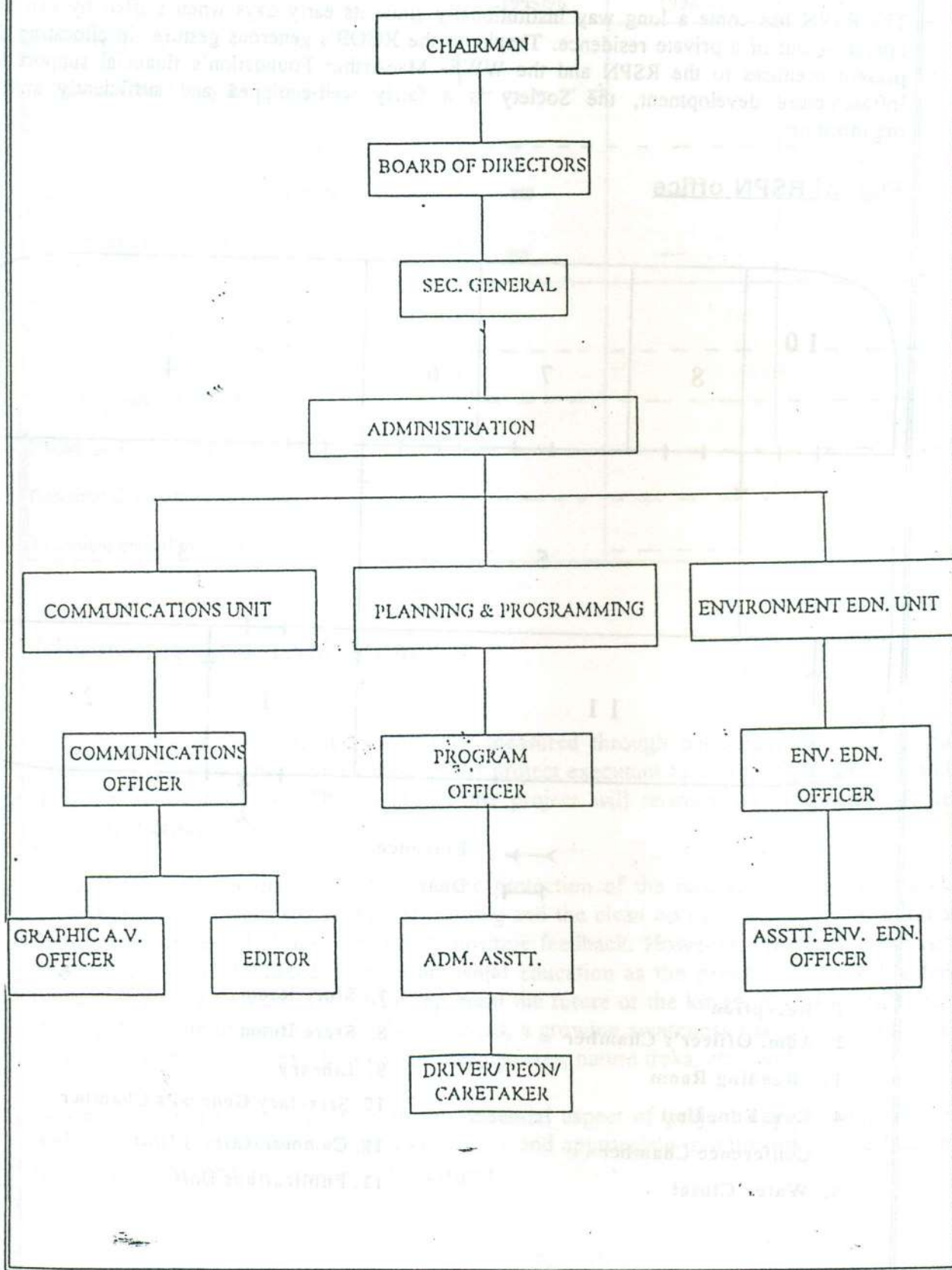
### Plan of RSPN office



- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Reception              | 7. Store Room                   |
| 2. Adm. Officer's Chamber | 8. Store Room                   |
| 3. Reading Room           | 9. Library                      |
| 4. Env. Edn. Unit         | 10. Secretary General's Chamber |
| 5. Conference Chamber     | 11. Communications Unit         |
| 6. Water Closet           | 12. Publications Unit           |



### Organizational Structure





## ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION UNIT'S REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Education Programme (EEP), initially under the Education Department, was absorbed into the RSPN in 1991. It has since been through several changes in personnel and programmes.

The potential exists within environmental education to trigger the kind of revolution in educational principles and practice that is acutely short in this country. Fitting environmental education into the rigidities of the present educational establishment is a daunting but important task.

The RSPN's environmental education unit will continue to focus on the vast potential in the formal education sector (curricular and co-curricular activities), which falls under the purview of this project, and the non-formal education sector (religious groups, local communities, women, consumer associations, NGOs and government agencies), a shared responsibility with the Mobile Communication and Development Conservation Projects.

### GOALS

To create an awareness among the general public about the environment and its related problems.

To work in partnership with the concerned divisions of the Royal Government of Bhutan to preserve the biological diversity of the kingdom.

To promote sustainable use of renewable and non renewable natural resources through the reduction of their overexploitation and conspicuous consumption.

The activities carried out by the EE unit may be broadly divided as follows:

#### A. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD SCHEME

The EAS was introduced in 1992 mainly to encourage students to participate in related projects. This scheme creates awareness, promotes understanding, exposes students to various issues and requires their participation and active involvement. Eight different themes have been identified to be implemented annually in a cycle of eight years. This will provide the RSPN a window through which to see changes, positive or negative, in peoples' attitude and the environment.

1992 Water around us	1996 Forests
1993 Fuelwood	1997 The traditional attitude to Nature
1994 Farming	1998 Flora & Fauna
1995 Wildlife and crop damage	1999 Livestock





i. Follow That Stream  
(A water pollution project)  
(March-April 1993)

The Follow That Stream Project, which had been successfully implemented in the Thimphu valley in 1992, was implemented in 10 other dzongkhags around the kingdom, after conducting a workshop for the teachers to familiarise them with the project handbook.

Monitoring & Evaluation ( 25 Nov - Dec 93)

The two Education Officers went around the ten Dzongkhags to assess the 'Follow that Stream' project and award the prize-trip to the best. All the schools held an exhibition at the end of the project. It was found that in most cases the rivers were badly polluted. Lhuntshi Junior High School presented a short skit on the subject which persuaded even the Dasho Dzongda, who was present during the exhibition. Many Dzongkhag authorities were convinced and ready to reallocate their existing public toilets which are situated over the streams.



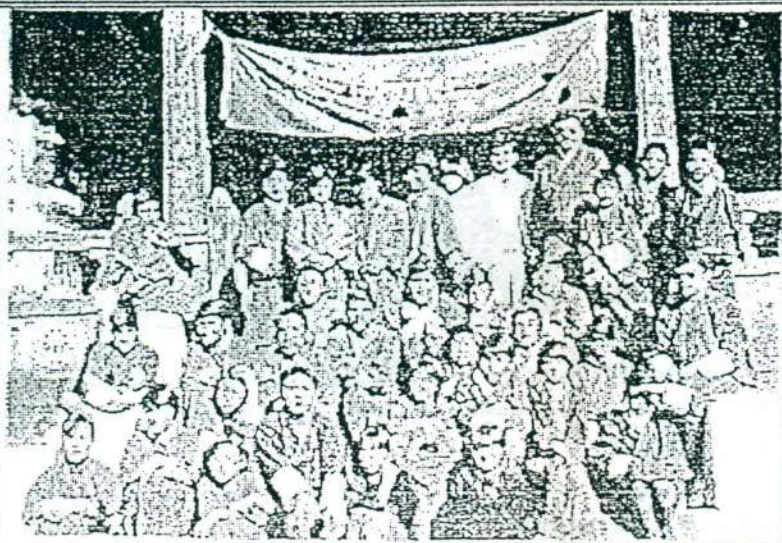
ii. Fuel Wood Project

This is the second project under EAS to be implemented by schools in Thimphu. A guide book for teachers and reading materials for students were distributed and a two day workshop organized for teachers.

Workshop for teachers on Fuelwood Project (9 Oct '93)

In October, the EEO, Mr. Mincha Wangdi, after obtaining approval from Dasho Dzongda and the Director General, Department of Education, invited teachers to attend a one day workshop. Ten schools represented by twenty teachers of the Thimphu Valley participated. The workshop aimed at familiarising the participants with the local, national and global environmental problems, focussing mainly on how humans contribute to the destruction of the natural resources when trying to meet energy demands. A few activities and a video presentation were also made to create the concept of sustainable consumption of fuelwood, alternative energy and available technologies highlighting both advantages and disadvantages. This was the starting point of the fuelwood project. The sequence and details of the survey and the materials for the project were also discussed. The participants expressed great interest in taking up the project.





### Fuelwood project (10 Oct-20 Nov 93)

Following the workshop, the ten schools of Thimphu Valley began their projects with the start of firewood collection season by the local people and contractors. At first, the children were familiarised with the project and its aims through talks, slide and video presentations.

All the schools were visited with similar programmes. The students were taken to Chamgang, the source of Thimphu's firewood supply. The children were surprised to see the plight of the forest over there and they were convinced that at this rate, Bhutan would soon be barren.

### Fuelwood Exhibition (20 to 22 November)

After they completed the project, the children interpreted their findings in the form of drawings, graphs, and other mathematical methods so that the man in the street could understand what it was all about.

The exhibition was held at the YHS boys' dormitory. Judges were invited to assess the work of different schools depending upon which, they were nominated for the EE Trip. The exhibition was open to local people from in and around Thimphu for three days. The entire project on Fuelwood was funded by the Canadian Cooperation Office.

## B. WORKSHOPS, TRAINING PROGRAMMES, ETC.

### i. Workshop for Bhutan Forestry Institute

In July 1993, a three day workshop was organised for the 34 Forest guard trainees at the Bhutan Forestry Institute. The workshop aimed at sensitising the participants to the importance of environmental conservation and the role of Social Forestry in promoting awareness in school children and the general public. While the trainees are on their attachment posting, they try some of the activities planned during the workshop.

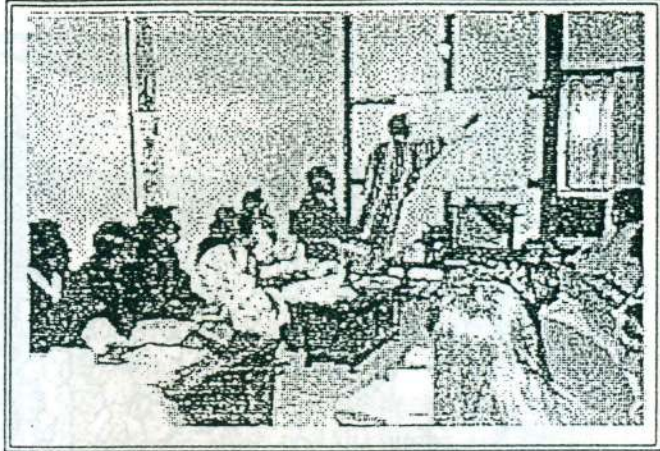
### ii. Youth Training Programme

The RSPN introduced Environment Education in the Youth Training Camp conducted by the Department of Education and Youth Welfare Association. The main aim was to familiarise youths with the environmental issues that are emerging in Bhutan. The role of youth in educating other members in their community is also the part of the package. About 250 students participated in the camp. The Camp was held at Rinchening, Phuntsholing during January 1993 for three weeks. A similar camp has been planned in Deothang this year.



### iii. Environmental Awareness for Science Teachers

The Curriculum and Textbook Development now renamed as Curriculum and Professional Support Section (CASPS) during their one week workshop for science teachers generously allotted four 40 minutes sessions for the RSPN. This opportunity was used to promote environmental awareness among the teachers through simulation games, slide and video shows.



### iv. Awareness Workshop for NRTI trainees

A two day workshop was organised for eighty students of the Natural Resources Training Institute at Lobeşa for the first time. Since these trainees will be posted to remote places in the country, it is necessary to create awareness among them. In future, NRTI graduates will be used as the key people to promote conservation education in the non-formal sector. Environmental Education and Environmental Ethics were taught to them through games and activities. It has been decided that a review of the current NRTI curriculum will be done with RSPN involvement.

### v. NIE Workshop (12-13 Aug 93)

The Principal of the National Institution of Education, Samtse in collaboration with WWF and RSPN has organized a workshop during August 1993 for the lecturers of TTC, Paro and NIE. Two officials from the EEU, RSPN took an active role in facilitating the workshop, which aimed at including EE components in the existing curriculum. One of the outcomes was that a society called the NIE Society for the Protection of Nature (NSPN) was formed and all the participants appreciated that the inclusion of EE components into the existing curriculum was very necessary. TTC, Paro will also soon form a club which will basically concentrate on conservation activities.

### vi. Trainings, Seminars and Workshops attended (Jan-April 93)

Mr. Parsuram Sharma, AEO of the EE Unit, RSPN, attended a 12 week Environmental Education Course at the Jordanhill College, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. Mr. Mencha Wangdi, EEO, attended the SASEANE Workshop in Gujarat in February. He and Mr. Parsuram together attended their workshop at BFI on Bird Watching conducted by Mr. Tim and Mrs. Carol Inskipp. They attended another workshop on the Findings of the Survey done in Manas and the Black Mountain region by WWF consultants. Exposure to Inskipp led to a request for 30 pairs of second hand binoculars from the RSPN based in U.K. which will soon be arriving here through various travel agents. Mr. Wangdi also participated in a workshop on Eco-Tourism organised by TAB, WWF and RSPN.



### vii. Youth Trainers' Training Workshop (28-30 December)

The Bhutan Youth Development Association (BYDA) organised a week's camp at Kelki School in Thimphu in which about thirty teachers participated. The RSPN, as earlier, was invited to their programme. A small booklet called 'Youth and Environment', containing different ecological games was published and distributed among the participants. In addition, a talk on Environmental education and slide and video presentations were made. As part of the programme, teachers were also given the opportunity to plan the EE activities in the Youth training program. Everyone expressed their confidence and willingness to organise the activities that were presented. The selected teachers among the participants were taken down to Kharbandi school to facilitate the Youth programme for 250 students from around the kingdom.

### viii. Workshop for Dzongkha Lopens (1-9 Jan)

The RSPN was not able to organise a separate workshop for the Nature Club Teachers. Hence, in consultation with the Head of the Teacher Education Unit, Department of Education, the RSPN decided to have inputs wherever workshops organised by the Department of Education were taking place. The two Education Officers, accompanied by three students (who were the participants of Water Pollution and Fuelwood Project and the Singye Karm Secretary) were with eighty Dzongkha Lopens, who were participating in the workshop at Tsimalakha High School. Different ecological games, slide and video presentations everyday made them aware of various environmental issues. The exhibitions on Water Pollution and Fuelwood were arranged in a room where the lopens were explained the projects.

### ix. Workshop at Paro (11-15 Jan)

About 250 teachers participated in three different workshops at TTC Paro. In the second week of January, the same team, who'd been to Tsimalakha, went to Paro for five days to have RSPN's input. Since the group was large, they were addressed in the hall at once. Besides, a slide show was organised. Video films on environmental education and wildlife were screened daily. The exhibition on water pollution and fuelwood were also displayed

### x. Non formal Educator's Workshop

As a result of the conservation awareness workshop organised for eighty Dzongkha lopens in Tsimalakha High School in January 1994, The Dzongkha Development Commission, which is also responsible for promoting non formal education in various Dzongkhags, once again requested the EE officers to organise similar types of classes for the NFE educators. Since the RSPN is also interested in promoting EE in this sector, their request has been accepted with pleasure. As a result, the EEO, Mr Mincha Wangdi, went down to facilitate the





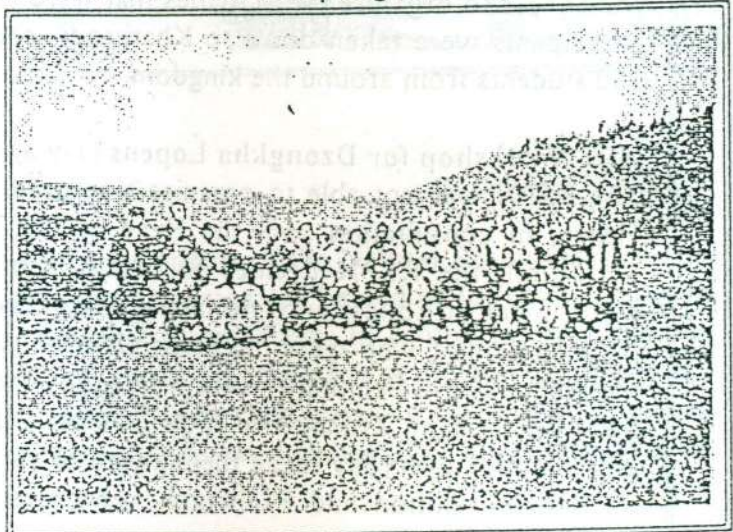
programme. The focus during the camp was mainly on sensitising the farmers on how to meet their basic needs through subsistence farming without contributing to environmental degradation. These were demonstrated through slide and video presentations, ecological games, nature orientation, stories and role plays.

### C. CAMPS, TREKS, ETC.

#### i. Environmental Awareness Trip

Thirty three students and four teachers from Lungten Zampa Junior High School participated in the one week Environmental Awareness Camp organised by the RSPN. The camp was designed as an incentive trip for the winners of the water pollution project.

The stream Survey Project is now open for other schools to implement. This has been notified in the Takin Newsletter. A few schools have already responded and asked for RSPN support.



#### ii. Report on Environmental Camp for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) at TTC

As usual the RSPN organised an ECCA for the first year trainees at TTC Paro in March 1993. The trainees were briefed on different emerging environmental problems in Bhutan and the teachers' role in the promotion of Environmental Education in schools through curricular and co-curricular activities. A variety of Environmental Education games were taught which the trainees could implement in schools after the completion of their training. A similar camp is in demand for trainees who are undergoing the Dzongkha Teacher Training Course.

#### iii. Eco - Trek for students (28 Aug - 3 Sept 93)

Fifty three boys and twenty girls of Yangchenphug High School were sponsored for an eco trek during the second term break. Food, travel expenses and other material support like tents, binoculars and films were given to eight groups with guidelines on eco-trekking and details of assignments. They will report to the RSPN about their trip in the form of a project report.

#### iv. Trip to Manas Wildlife Reserve ( Dec 18 to 24)

The senior students of Yangchenphug, Motithang and Chhoden JHS were taken to the Manas Wildlife Reserve. The place was chosen mainly to familiarise the students with the rich variety of flora and fauna. Different EE activities were organised. Bird watching sessions were conducted every morning. They even experienced boating. The safari drive on the Indian side of Manas was very fruitful as they could see spotted deer, sambar, water



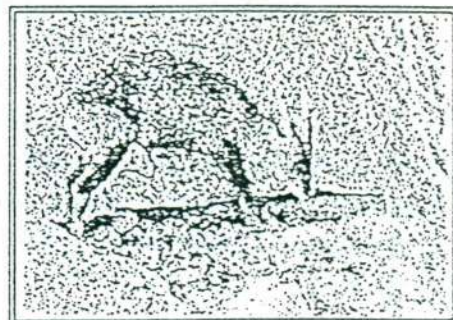


buffalo, and peacocks in large numbers. The elephant ride was fun and educative. The students and teachers accompanying them really enjoyed the entire trip.

#### v. Awareness Camp at Phuntsholing (25-31 Jan)

The selected students and teachers who took part in the Water Pollution Project from around the Country were invited to participate in the Awareness Camp at Phuntsholing for a week.

During the trip, they were taken to the Jaldapara Wildlife Reserve at Madarihat, India. The Education Officer of the International Centre gave a talk on the conservation of wildlife. The teachers and students asked a lot of questions on tropical animals, threats to their survival and the the government's role in protecting wildlife. The visits to different factories such as Bhutan Board Particles Limited, Gedu Wood Manufacturing Company, Bhutan Carbide and Chemicals Limited, Bhutan Polythene Company, Milk Chilling Plant, Campa Cola Factory convinced the participants how much pollution has been done to the surroundings, how the natural resources are being depleted at an alarming rate and other effects such as waste disposal problem, destruction of habitat (forest and aquatic), promotion of monoculture plantations. Ecological games, the exhibition on water pollution and fuelwood were displayed for participants to learn and share how through projects the general mass could be addressed about different environmental issues. Tree climbing, cultural campfire and environmental dramas lent a special flavor to the camp.



#### vi. Environmental Education Trip to Phobjikha (12-13 March)

The six primary schools of Thimphu Valley who took part in the Fuelwood Project last year were taken on a one night trip to Phobjikha to see the Black Necked Cranes. The weather did not allow the RSPN to organise the ecological activities. Yet, they could see the Black Necked Cranes very closely. They even studied their shape, colour, way of landing and taking off. They studied their habitat carefully and even researched on what and how they eat. At the time of return, they visited the Gangtey Gonpa where they received blessings from the Gangtey Tilku. The trip gave them a clear picture of Phobjikha, its people and the better understanding of the BNCs.

### C: ACTIVITIES

#### i. Quiz Competition on Social Forestry Day 1993

On June 2, the RSPN organised a Quiz Competition among the schools of Thimphu valley. Fourteen schools participated representing two categories. This division provided an opportunity for all schools to participate. The main aim of the competition was to promote greater awareness among students and increase their knowledge and understanding about

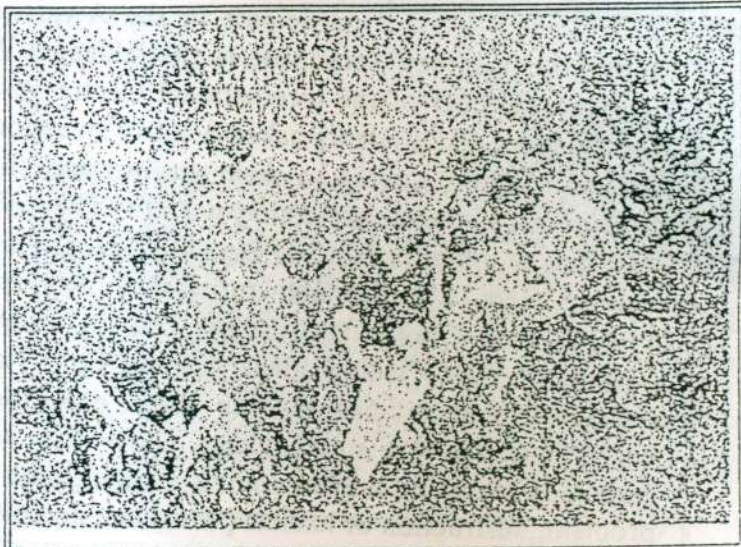


the local, regional and global environment. As the day also coincided with Social Forestry Day, a special focus was made, while preparing questions, to enhance a better understanding of the importance of trees and forests in the eco-system.

## ii. Nature Club Activities

On 21 June 93, Yangchenphug High School invited the RSPN staff to deliver talks on different environmental issues and Bhutan's status in relation to the issues. One hundred and fifty children from classes VII and VIII were present in the group. The role of different organizations to safeguard the environment was also discussed. Environmental ethics and simple ways of becoming environmentally friendly through

a changed attitude were discussed. At the end, pamphlets on 'Ways to save the Earth' were distributed among the children. Similarly, the EEU organised deliberations and a slide show for Motithang High School Nature Club members. This club also organized a debate competition and they invited Officers from the EE unit to attend. The theme chosen was Environment versus



Industrialisation. Each group prepared their argument for and against the motion. Motithang School also approached RSPN to support them to green their school surroundings.

## iii. Visit by WWF Officials

Mr Lee Kup Jip from WWF International, Malaysia and Mr Sharad Gaur from WWF India visited the RSPN to discuss and explore avenues for any possible help from WWF International in future. They were escorted by the EEO to NRTI, Lobesa, Department of Education, TTC Paro, BFI, Nature Conservation Division and to a meeting with the Acting President.

## iv. Campaigns

The 1993 graduates organised a Capital Clean Up Day on the 29 August 1993. The RSPN, to support their programme, published leaflets and banners which were distributed to the football fans at the Changlimithang Stadium. Technical and logistic support were also provided by RSPN, WWF and Travel Agents.



v. Slide presentation for the new volunteers (2 Feb)

On the request of Ms Ann Hudson, the Country Coordinator of the VSA, New Zealand, a short programme was organised in Hotel -89 by the RSPN. The aim was mainly to familiarise the new volunteers with Bhutan's natural environment and its related issues. RSPN's efforts to promote environmental education were also presented through slides. The participants were curious to know more about Bhutan. They were given the RSPN publications: Takin and Rangzhin and given information on membership procedures.

vi. Slide presentation for the Singaporean students

Upon the request of the Takin Tours and Trekking Co., the RSPN organised a slide presentation at the Takin Guest House in Changzamtok for a group of fifteen students and two teachers from Singapore American School. They were here on an environmental trip. Seven students from Bhutan, who were nominated by the RSPN, accompanied them during their one week stay in the country.

vii. Designing a Guide Book for Nature Club Teachers (Sept.)

The EEU has developed a guide book for Environmental Clubs in Schools which will be distributed among twenty selected schools for their comments and help. It will be reviewed in the forthcoming winter workshop after which it will be finally printed and distributed in all the schools of the kingdom.

viii. Art and Environment competition

The RSPN has chosen 'Fuel Wood' as the 1993 theme of the Art and Environment Competition. The five categories were advertised in the Kuensel and the information despatched to different schools. This project had been funded with the sale of Calendars and Cards using winning entries from 1991's paintings. The production of similar items for the coming year using 1992's paintings has also been effected.

ix. Magic and Hypnosis

The RSPN organised a Magic cum Hypnosis Show with some music programme to raise funds for Art and Environment Competition project. Important environmental messages were an integral part of both hypnosis and magic programmes. Banners and posters with environmental messages were displayed in the hall. Leaflets with conservation messages were also be distributed to the audience.

x. Working with the Department of Education

The Curriculum and Professional Support Section (CAPSS) of the Education Department has been developing Population Education to be introduced in schools. Since the Population Education and Environmental Education have close links and share a common concern for the environment, the EEU worked with the CAPSS to develop materials on Population Education. Besides, the class VII, IX and X geography books written by the CAPSS were reviewed and injected with environmental components by the EEU, RSPN.



## Communication Unit

### Statement of Need

A careful scrutiny of the activities undertaken by the RSPN clearly shows one common denomination: communication. The very *raison d'être* of organizations like the RSPN depend on effective communications networks to realize their objectives. If we consider, for a moment, the basic aims of the Society, that is, to spread the message of conservation to the general public and to alert them to the dangers of degradation, it follows, logically, that an effective method of communication is an essential requirement.

At the onset, it should be borne in mind that the majority of the people of Bhutan, the target group of RSPN endeavours, are illiterate. Also, the young constitute a sizeable section of the kingdom's population. These statistical facts immediately bring two things to mind:

- ♦ Young people are not known for their patience or scholarliness and one cannot expect them to wade through the volumes of literature, no matter how interesting the content may be.
- ♦ If the bulk of the target group is illiterate, not even the most ingeniously put together leaflets and brochures are likely to be effective.

This makes it imperative that programmes designed by the RSPN be creative and stimulating enough to provoke the response and capture the imagination of the people at whom they are aimed. If a picture speaks a thousand words, then it would appear that the most appropriate way to reach out to these audience types would be through educational videos and photography and, directed towards the specific target of the educated youth, magazines, reports, & etc..

From the case studies and the needs assessment conducted in Bhutan and elsewhere it has become evident that the key element to the success of any environmental programme is the spontaneous and, thereby, spirited participation of peoples at all levels. The RSPN is well aware that in order to motivate and mobilize people, an effective communications network between the Society and society is the need of the hour.

It has been observed in many developing countries that one of the most important factors in implementing any developmental activity is an effective network of communication. Communication is an essential and potent tool in educating, motivating and mobilizing people participation in any programme. For these reasons, communication must needs be an integral and inseparable component of the RSPN.

Effective communication can only be made possible through a well researched, designed and fully equipped communication unit supported by qualified staff and adequate, relevant audio-visual material. Keeping these pressing needs in mind, it is hereby proposed that a distinct Audio-Visual & Communication Unit be established within the RSPN with the capacity to plan, design and produce any required media materials that are an indispensable part and parcel of any and every RSPN activity.



## Functional Role

Since the inception of the RSPN in 1986, it has never been able to set up an independent Audio-Visual & Communication Unit despite the obvious need for the same. This unit must be established and incorporated within the RSPN if the Organization is to function effectively.

The unit, which should be well equipped and self-sufficient, will fulfil the following roles:

Advise/Assist the trainers and communicators in RSPN and elsewhere to determine communication needs and in formulating communication strategies;

Design/Produce Audio-Visual and other teaching aids needed by trainers of RSPN and other participating organizations;

Facilitate/Support the preservation of Bhutan's rich heritage of natural resources and the promotion of conservation themes through appropriate communication programmes and services;

Research/Produce video, slide sound and other projected media materials on important and special communication programmes of educational and informational value;

Monitor/Evaluate the impact of communication support programmes implemented by RSPN and other key organizations as feedback findings to the appropriate authorities/agencies;

Identify/Assess the selection and procurement of audio-visual and other communication, production and utilization equipment and supplies in order to ensure appropriate levels of quality and standardization with respect to the supply of spare parts and servicing.

Strengthen/Enhance the capability of RSPN and other key organizations in performing selected communication support and training functions that will enable the staff of RSPN and concerned organizations to gain the participation of the community at large. The unit shall undertake this institutional capacity building function through any combination of orientation, training and advisory services to the RSPN and the key organizations.



## Projects

The AV & C Unit of the RSPN was set up in May 1993 with a staff of three: a communications officer, a graphic audio-visual producer and an editor/writer.

The projects undertaken are enumerated below:

### ♦ *Establishment of network of environmental news stringers*

The initial recruitment will be of interested school teachers, on an honorary basis, who will be required to report on the weather, wildlife, natural disasters, workshops/seminars on the environment etc..

Seminars will be organized for the stringers annually during the winter vacation to facilitate an exchange of information and to bring them abreast with the latest in local and global environmental concerns.

The immediate objective is to appoint a stringer in each dzongkhag of the kingdom. This is slated to be accomplished within the year 1993. During its first recruitment drive in August 1993, twelve stringers were appointed, some of whom have already commenced operations.

As the services rendered by the stringers is wholly voluntary, they will be rewarded with visits to sanctuaries, wildlife parks or nature rambles etc. at the Society's expense. In order to perpetuate this programme, it may become necessary to pay the stringers a nominal amount and to equip them with cameras, binoculars, literature, etc. for better results.

### ♦ *Art and Environment*

The Art and Environment Programme was initially under the purview of the Environmental Education unit of the RSPN and was adopted by the A-V & C unit on its inception. The annual theme for the programme will be as per the Environment Award Scheme shown below:

1992	Water around us	1996	Forests
1993	Fuelwood	1997	The traditional attitude to Nature
1994	Farming	1998	Flora & Fauna
1995	Wildlife and crop damage	1999	Livestock

The Art & Environment project is run as a competition open to children of all ages for cash prizes/books in a number of categories. The main aim of this project is to promote art as a means for children to express their feelings and values in relation to their natural surroundings. Also, the better paintings will be used for calendars, stickers, tea-shirts etc. whose sale could contribute towards the self-sustainability of the project.

### ♦ *Publications*

The unit will be responsible for the publication of a quarterly magazine tentatively titled Green Earth, the first issue of which is due on 11 November 1993 and a bi-annual report, the Takin Newsletter, the first issue of which was printed and circulated in August 1993, the next slated for release on 17 December 1993. In addition to the above, an Annual Report of the Society will also be published as a supplement to the year-ending Takin issue.

A Desk-top publishing unit and a photocopier are the basic infra-structural requirements to avoid the recurring inflationary printing costs. The self-sustainability of this project may be made viable largely through the introduction of advertisements in the journals and less through paid subscriptions.

Full details on this programme are available in the Action Plan for the same.



♦ *Resource Development & Documentation*

The unit will produce teaching aids related to environmental concerns by way of posters, charts, slides, video, and audio recordings.

Due to an immediate lack of equipment, these undertakings may be considered as a projected programme whose implementation is directly tied to the procurement of the necessary equipment listed in the Section on the same. It is envisaged that the setting up a full fledged audio-visual section will enable a library of communication support materials to be established.

In this context, it may be mentioned that the Society has produced two documentary films, one on its own, 'On the Wings of Prayer', and the other, in collaboration with the NHK Company of Japan, 'Call of the Crane'.

In future, this section shows promise of self sustainability through patents, copyrights and royalties on films, logos, designs, etc..

♦ *Data Base*

The unit will establish a data bank for information on all aspects of the environment. This will be achieved with the help of the stringers network set up and from government agencies concerned with the environment. The data received will be in the form of reports, samples, photographs, etc..

The usefulness of a data bank lies in its being the sole repository of environmental information, a catalogue of the indigenous bio-diversity, a compilation of the weather conditions nationwide, statistics on natural resources, wildlife counts and sightings, government environmental policies/findings, records of natural disasters, etc..

## Activities during the fiscal year 1993 - 1994

### A. Mobile Communication Tour

The tour team, comprising the Communications Officer, Graphic Audio Visual Producer and the Editor visited the schools of central and eastern Bhutan. This tour, made in August 1993, was the first after the initiation of the Communication unit in May 1993. The team screened environmental documentaries and talked about various environmental issues with the students. Some of the students, especially those in eastern Bhutan were, in fact, unaware of the existence of the RSPN. So, the tour served a dual purpose - an introduction to the RSPN in general and the communication needs assessment of the Society in particular. Besides these, the team also appointed environmental news stringers (teachers) from the schools and distributed the first issue of Takin - the RSPN newsletter. The Editor talked about the Environmental magazine (Rangzhin) which the RSPN was about to publish and sought articles, stories, poems, etc. for it.

The team also hosted a dinner for the Singye Karm members at the Sherubtse College, Kanglung, to reinforce its link with the RSPN and act as the representative of the RSPN in the east.



## B. Publications

The RSPN initially had been publishing a newsletter 'Takin' on a makeshift basis with neither an editor nor a schedule which might explain its erratic materialisation. With the advent of the KSP project funded by SNV (Netherlands) publication was expanded and regularised. As a result of the sponsorship, this unit is now staffed with an Editor and an Audio-Visual graphic designer and is responsible for the following publications as per frequency mentioned alongside:

Rangzhin(aimed at the younger reader)-	Three issues per year
Takin (aimed at the adult reader)-	Two issues per year
Annual report (Limited edition)-	One issue per year

During the fiscal year 1993 - 1994 two issues each of the Rangzhin (1000 copies) and the Takin(500 copies) besides this issue of the Annual report (200 copies) were published and distributed to the members and all government and international organisations.

As the project is expected to be self-sustainable in the long term, a few issues of the "Rangzhin" were put on sale in the open market on an experimental basis to evaluate public and support. As an extension of this market analysis, forthcoming issues of this magazine, which had been hitherto distributed free of cost, will henceforth be issued only to members or at a subsidized rate. In pursuance of this policy of self-reliance, advertisements will be solicited off of leading commercial national companies/enterprises. To this effect, a photo-copier (colour), computer and scanner have been acquired for the unit thereby reducing its overheads and improving its product.

It may be mentioned in this context that interest has been generated insofar as enrolment of members, individual and institutional, shows, that these publications have realised their immediate objective (to create environmental awareness).

The schedule of publications for the forthcoming fiscal year 1994 - 1995 is as below:

• 6 May 1994	-	Annual Report
• 2 June 1994	-	Takin
• 14 July 1994	-	Ranzhin
• 11 Nov.1994	-	Takin
• 17 Dec. 1994	-	Rangzhin
• 28 Feb. 1995	-	Rangzhin
• 6 May 1995	-	Annual Report





### C. Painting Competition

The IUCN sponsored a regional art competition on the theme "Our mountains" to celebrate the ICIMOD 10th anniversary. The Communication unit of the RSPN conducted this competition on behalf of the IUCN for the schools in Bhutan. The high schools of Punakha, Paro, Chukha and Thimphu sat for an on the spot painting competition at the Yangchenphug High School. The rest conducted the competition in their respective schools and sent their entries to the RSPN. A panel of judges selected the ten best entries which were then forwarded to ICIMOD, Nepal for the inter-regional contest. A painting by Yeshey Dorji, from Shemgang High School, was selected as the first and he was awarded a cash prize of US \$ 500.00.

### D. World Earth Day

The Communication unit organised an art exhibition on the 23 April, 1994 to commemorate the World Earth Day ( 22 April) at the YHS auditorium. The exhibited paintings included the entries from the Art and Environment competition organised in early 1993 on the theme "Fuelwood". The paintings were also adjudged by a panel of judges appointed by the RSPN. Besides the art exhibition, earlier paintings were also displayed and put up for sale. Advertisements and educational materials on health and sanitation from the Health Division and the Public Works Department were also on display.

The Royal Society  
for the Protection of Nature

EARTHDAY  
April 22 1994



Act now



to save it for later!

EARTH DAY



22 April 1994

The Royal Society for the Protection of Nature

observe the occasion with an

EXHIBITION cum SALE

of children's paintings/charts/models.

COME SEE SHARE

Show how much you care!

VENUE: YHS Auditorium  
DATE: Saturday, 23 April 1994  
TIME: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



## THE CITIZENS' REPORT ON THE STATE OF BHUTAN'S ENVIRONMENT

### GOALS

1. To develop the institution and capacity of the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN) to enable it to implement larger and more diverse environmental programmes.
2. To publish, at the end of a three year compilation programme, a citizens' report on the state of Bhutan's environment and, in doing so, increase the general public's awareness and participation in such issues.

### OBJECTIVE

1. To build the institution of the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature and in doing so publish a report on the state of Bhutan's environment - a citizen's report.
2. Set up the machinery necessary to solicit, receive and store relevant information from the field.
3. Create through cooperation and in consultation with concerned governmental and non-governmental agencies a mode via which relevant data may be gathered from a nationwide random sampling.
4. Train a core unit of personnel to undertake the collection, research and interpretation of environment related information.
5. Communicate through literature, interviews etc with the public at large a better understanding of the delicate balance between development and conservation.
6. Compile an inventory of the bio-diversity existent within the frontiers.
7. Capacity building of the institution and its personnel
8. Promote sustainable development through informed planning and conscious management.

### ACHIEVING PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Institution building of the RSPN will be a major goal of the proposed project. A product of this project will be the publication of a citizen's report on the state of Bhutan's environment, the first of its kind. This report will go a long way in setting up an institutional mechanism that will cover all areas of natural resources. Further this project will help build RSPN's capacity and capabilities, and will also provide important and realistic information along which future programmes will be based.



The project being proposed will be conducted by the RSPN. RSPN intends to develop a series of activities that address local environmental and development issues and assess the impacts. Further, it is intended that this project run parallel with the seventh five year plan that the Royal government has very recently launched. This is because the current five year plan is the most ambitious and largest five year plan that the Royal government has undertaken, both in terms of development activities as well as the huge increase in its budget. A comparative study on development and environment and the impacts of development on the environment, natural and human resources will also be recorded and compiled.

*RSPN aims to achieve the projects objectives by :*

1. Setting up the machinery to solicit, receive and store relevant information from the field. This will be done by researchers, surveyors, pollsters and in consultation with the department of Forestry, department of Education and aid agencies. RSPN will also use its network of nature clubs that are affiliated to it to receive and relay relevant information and feedback on development and environmental impacts.

2. The second objective will be achieved by coordinating with various organisations, both governmental and non-governmental in acquiring the necessary information. A nationwide survey will be conducted, in the process of which 1000 local persons from each district will be interviewed in order to receive and portray the true views of the grassroots on development and environmental issues and its impacts.

3. During the course of the project a core unit of local persons will be trained in undertaking research, surveys, inventories and interpretation of environment related information. This will be done by way of conducting training workshops and using the trained unit in the field from which they can contribute to the project as well as gain experience from such field work.

4. RSPN will use the media and make regular input in Kuensel and Bhutan Broadcasting Service to communicate and promote to the public at large of a better understanding of the delicate balance between development and conservation. This will generate an awareness of the environmental problems and sensitise people towards an understanding of the physical and human processes that interact to shape the environment; and to foster a concern for the quality of the environment and the sustainable management of natural resources and promote analytical social change.

5. RSPN will liaise, coordinate and work in conjunction with local organisations such as the World Wildlife Fund, Environment Trust Fund for nature conservation and the Department of Forestry to acquire and compile an inventory of the bio-diversity that exists within the Kingdom and incorporate a bio-diversity data base, which till now is non-existent. The data will be used on a continuous basis and will be made available to concerned organisations and the public whenever necessary.

6. This project will greatly assist the RSPN in its capacity building and institutional development. Through this project RSPN will receive equipment, training and vast experience in the environmental field.

7. This project will promote social change and outlook both in the government and the public as the proposed report will portray as accurate as possible, a true picture on the state of Bhutan's environment from the citizen's perspective.



**STATEMENT OF NEED**

RSPN is the sole local environmental NGO in the country. As the nation forges rapidly ahead in the quest for economic development, the stress on its environment and the pressure to open up and exploit its natural resources in order to maintain its development velocity will become tremendous. Unfortunately, there is a lack of an educated opinion on the environment and the absence of resources, both in manpower and materials to confront these growing threats. The development of the institutional capacity of the RSPN will help reduce if not counter such environmental threats.

NGO's all over the world have proved that citizens participatory institutions are far more effective in promoting awareness and getting people to change their views, values, and their immediate socio-economic conditions. Theoretically, in a way it helps reduce the debilitating dependence on the government. Further, it is imperative that citizen's participatory institutions that are non-governmental, (as is RSPN) exists to evaluate, monitor and implement environmentally sound programmes. Not from a development or financially sound cost effective perspective only, but from an environmental perspective that takes into account the long-term environmental costs instead of short-term economic gains.

However, the need exists, to develop the capabilities and capacity of RSPN (the only citizen's participatory institution that is dedicated to environmental concerns), to expand its effectiveness, as well as viability, to better complement governmental efforts which, because of scarce resources, organisational limitations inherent in any bureaucracy, and the vast scope of its operations to accommodate innumerable concerns, tend to be spread rather sparsely.

RSPN recognizes the serious lack of information, which is necessary for a clear and comprehensive understanding of the complex ecosystem found in so small a country as Bhutan. As a result contradictory information is often stated by various agencies, governmental and non-governmental, which can neither be accepted nor refuted for lack of an accurate and reliable information base. An institutional mechanism that will cover all areas of natural resources including human resources needs to be set up which will collect baseline data on the status of the ecosystem and monitor its dynamics.

A central repository for environmental data does not as yet exist in the country. Nor is there a forum for like issues to be addressed and/or debated by the man on the street or the one on the farm. A report on the state of Bhutan's environment will go a long way in filling the void. Information compiled will be made accessible to all researchers, policy makers, managers of natural resources and government agencies.

Such a report of the people, by the people and to the people on the state of the environment should ideally be undertaken by an NGO concerned and capable of dealing with the same. The RSPN is the only such body in the kingdom with an empowering Royal Charter.

The preparation of this report will entail a salutary learning process for all concerned from the inception to the completion of the project. The experience will permit local environmentalists to come to grips with the tangible evidence that is available but as yet untapped.

The interpretation of the specialized data thus made available will enable projected damage assessments and long term damage containments.



**TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY:**

The Project will be implemented by the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN). RSPN was established in 1987 as the first Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) dealing with conservation and allied concerns. The principal objective of RSPN is to promote conservation and wise management of natural resources and to raise public awareness on environment conservation at local and global levels. The Royal Government has recognised the role played by RSPN towards this cause. The RSPN has been successful in its efforts in acting as a watchdog over Governmental policies concerning the environment and its conservation. The RSPN envisages to develop its institutional capacity and in the process compile and publish a report on the state of Bhutan's environment - a citizen's report.

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

- A - Hiring of personnel - four researchers and one coordinator.
- B - Utilising consultancy services for conducting a workshop with concerned Government Ministries/Departments & NGOs to train personnel, prepare a questionnaire and present papers on spectrum of environmental matters.
- C - Pre-setting calendar schedule for the dzongkhagwise random sampling. (Approximately 1000 people per district over 20 districts).
- D - Hiring and training of teams of four pollsters and one supervisor to be despatched to the districts. (Another workshop?).
- E - Collection and storage of data in a computerised data bank.
- F - Interpretation of data with another team of consultants (A seminar?).
- G - Preparation of Report (inclusive of writing, editing and layout)
- H - Printing report.

**SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES****1. TRAINING WORKSHOPS:**

To familiarise and train the core unit that will be working in the field, a four day training workshop will be conducted on methodology in respect with conducting surveys, inventories, assessments, interpretation of environment related information and conducting polls. This will be conducted with assistance from the Center for Science and Environment (CSE), an Indian NGO that has produced similar reports and has had vast experience on such development and environmental issues. Experts from the CSE, WWF and Department of Forestry will be the resource persons for this training workshop.

During the course of the workshop various government organisations, aid agencies and experts will be invited to present papers on spectrum of environmental issues that need to be addressed and prioritised. Questionnaires that will be used for the surveys and interviews will also be prepared at the end of the workshop.



## 2. RESEARCH AND SURVEYS:

The country will be divided into four zones. Each zone will fall under the jurisdiction of one researcher and a team of surveyors. Extensive research and surveys will be conducted on ecosystem bio-diversity, wildlife, farming trends, deforestation, impact of human intervention on the environment, ecological changes, causes of environmental degradation, role of religion, development and other environmental issues. A coordinator will oversee and coordinate between the four teams, he will be responsible for arranging the logistics, receiving reports, communication, systematically compiling information in a computerised data bank and will be the general supervisor of the project (project manager).

It has been estimated that this research and survey will take approximately two years.

## 3. INTERVIEWS AND POLLS:

In order to ensure a true and accurate report, this report will also represent the views of the mass (local and indigenous people). This process will include conducting interviews, polls and districtwise random sampling. A total of 1000 local persons will be interviewed in each district to state their views on development and environmental issues. Questionnaires will also be distributed to be filled in by local people.

To conduct these interviews and polls, teams of pollsters will be deployed to each district. 20,000 people will be interviewed in total. Their input will be reflected in the report along with reports received from the field and concerned organisations. This will help represent a true citizen's perspective on the effects of development and the state of the environment.

It has been estimated that this process will take approximately one year.

## 4. COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF DATA IN A COMPUTERISED BANK:

There will be vast information on various aspects of development and environment flowing in from the researchers, surveyors, pollsters and nature clubs. This information will have to be segregated according to their related issues and compiled in a systematic order in a computerised bank (data base). To facilitate this an AT computer will have to be acquired. The overall coordinator and a computer programmer will be responsible for such compilation and storage of information.

## 5. INTERPRETATION OF DATA ACQUIRED WITH A TEAM OF CONSULTANTS:

After all the data has been acquired and compiled RSPN will conduct a four day workshop on interpretation of data with a team of experts from various organisations. During the course of the workshop a rough draft of the report will be formulated.

## 6. PREPARATION OF REPORT:

After the workshop the format of the report will be prepared. Preparation of the report will also include writing, editing and layout. It is estimated that this report will consist of about 200 pages (including pictures, drawings, graphics etc.).



**7. PRINTING REPORT AND DISTRIBUTION:**

When the report has been completed RSPN will identify a competent printing agency (most probably outside the country) and have initially 400 copies of the report printed in a book format. After receiving the report from the printers RSPN will distribute copies of the report to concerned organisations and institutions and the remaining will be put up for sale. The proceeds from the sale will be utilised to update data on a biannual basis

**TENTATIVE TIME FRAME**

A & B - six months; C, D & E - eighteen months ; F, G & H - six months

ACTIVITY TABLE (in months)

Activities	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36
A&B	**	**	**															
C,D &E			**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**							
F,G &H											**	**	**					

**MONITORING & EVALUTION****MONITORING**

The RSPN Core Unit will stage periodic (on a monthly basis) monitoring cum information gathering exercise at the various Dzongkhags being surveyed. These details will serve a dual role: as a spot check, it will validate the team findings and as a continuous feedback loop it will allow a constant re-evaluation of the incoming data. Trends may thus be determined as and when they occur and amendments, addenda may be administered as the need arises.

**EVALUATION**

Data processing techniques may be conducted on a quarterly basis with the incoming information constantly updating the record files.

Statistical analysis with the help of illustrative devices like graphs, maps etc. may be achieved with the data at hand and constantly upgraded as further information flows in.



Summary of Activity, output and indicators for Conservation Education Project			
Sl.	Activities	Output	Indicators
1	Greening the curriculum	Env. components in geography, biology, social studies and science text books	Environmental input into the existing Curriculum of Education division
2	Teacher training : a) Pre-service b) In-service c) Study tour in and out of country d) Training i) short EE courses ii) Masters	250 environmentally aware new teachers Nature club teachers will be well aware of environmental issues Resource persons for EE programmes  Enriched & resourceful RSPN staff	workshops/ seminars and camps organised in training institutes training of nature club teachers  Resource persons will form a team to work for EE programmes.  2 Education officers trained at Jordanhill
3	Co-curricular Activities i) Nature clubs  ii) Environment Award Scheme (EAS) iii) Debate  iv) Quiz v) Drama  vi) Art & Environment vii) Campaigns/ observing world environment events viii) Youth Development	The 20 nature club Schools will be self-sustaining Nature clubs to implement EAS projects Nation wide environment awareness " " "  All districts to organise campaigns and observe world environment events Routine Environment input in the scout camps organised by BYDA	20 nature club schools established and implementing environmental activities Adoption of projects by some nature clubs Inter school competition to be held  Thimphu Inter-school competition Inter school competition for Thimphu proposed for 1994 Implemented twice in the form of cards and calendars Campaigns and events observed in few districts  RSPN input in scout camps for the last few years.
4	Visit to schools	Professional support for nature clubs and environmental activities	Two school visits undertaken annually
5	Non-formal Education i) Natural Resources Training Institute (NRTI)	Lecture/ workshop for 80 trainees annually.	Workshop and lecture delivered to NRTI students last year.
	ii) Bhutan Forestry Institute (Bhutan Forestry Institute)	Workshop for 50 trainees annually	There is specific time allotted to RSPN as a part of their course.
	iii) Zhungkha Teachers Course	"	"



		50 monks	They are more eco-friendly
	v) Industrialists	Depending on the size of the population	"
	vi) NF - Instructors	"	Citizens' participation
	vii) Consumers	"	"
	viii) Female education (National Women's Association of Bhutan)	"	"
	ix) Shopkeepers/businessmen	"	"
6	Development of Green Community		
	i) Training of Gups	(20) one from each Dzongkhag	Gups educate local grassroots citizens in EE
	ii) Study visits for community leaders	All 20 districts	They will be more motivated and knowledgeable
7	Development of materials	Guide books, posters, pamphlets, stickers	Citizens in EE to equip grassroots level educators with better educational facilities and information to make their teaching more authentic
8	Procurement of reference materials	Relevant to EE activities	"

#### Summary of Activity, Output and Indicators for Project Communications

S.N.	Activities	Output	Indicator
1	Mobile communication	1 annual Env. Communication tour to get feed back from the target audience in the form of change in their knowledge, attitude and practice	Communications tour ongoing
2	Publication	7 publications / year	Timely publication of 3 magazines, 2 Newsletters, and one Annual Report every year.
3	Resource Development	Production of video programme, books and other materials for the resource, library, documentation of the Environment events	Communications support materials produced, procured and circulated on a small scale at present.
4	Database	Collection and dispersion of Environment information on the flora, fauna and other relevant data	Started on a small scale. Project 'Citizens' report on the state of Bhutan's environment' ongoing
5	Environment network	Dissemination of Environment news through stringers	Environmental news stringers appointed (voluntary basis) in 12 districts and environmental information disseminated through them



## FUTURE RSPN PROJECTS

### ♦ Mobile Communication

This project is and will be jointly undertaken by Education and Communications Units and will constitute of the following components:

- A. Problem and audience analysis
- B. Knowledge, Attitude and Practice survey
- C. Message lay out
- D. Pre-test of message
- E. Final message design and dissemination

Therefore the budget breakdown for the fiscal year 1995/96 to 1997/98 has been reflected in the Conservation Education Project.

### ♦ Resource Development and Documentation

The unit will produce teaching aids related to environmental concerns by way of posters, charts, slides, video and audio recordings.

Due to an immediate lack of equipment, these undertakings may be considered as a projected programme whose implementation is directly tied to the procurement of the necessary equipment listed in the Section on the same. It is envisaged that the setting up a full fledged audiovisual section will enable a library of communication support materials to be established.

In this context, it may be mentioned that the Society has produced two documentary films, one on its own, 'On the Wings of Prayer', and the other, in collaboration with the NHK Company of Japan, 'Call of the Crane'.

In future, this section shows promise of self sustainability through patents, copyrights and royalties on films, logos, designs, etc..



#### ◆ Data Base

The unit will establish a data bank for information on all aspects of the environment. This will be achieved with the help of the stringers network set up and from government agencies concerned with the environment. The data received will be in the form of reports, samples, photographs, etc. in the following fields:

1. Wildlife inventory
2. Geographical data
3. Demographic data
4. Economic data
5. Sociological information
6. Industrial data
7. Energy

The usefulness of a data bank lies in its being the sole repository of environmental information, a catalogue of the indigenous bio-diversity, a compilation of the weather conditions nationwide, statistics on natural resources, wildlife counts and sightings, government environmental policies/findings, records of natural disasters, etc..

The UNDP funded 'CITIZENS' REPORT ON THE STATE OF BHUTAN'S ENVIRONMENT' which is ongoing is a part of RSPN's initiative towards establishment of an environmental database.

#### ◆ Sustainable Development and Conservation Project

This is an integrated conservation and development project that the RSPN wishes to implement in the near future. The components of the project, though already incorporated in ongoing projects, will for the first time be executed within a specific framework and to a specific target.

The technical details of the project are outlined in the RSPN long term plan but will require the input of consultancy services which have been solicited in this institutional development plan.

- A. Community Forestry
- B. Alternative Energy
- C. Conservation Education
- D. Tourism Development & Awareness
- E. Community Development
- F. Community Management Committee
- G. Research and Training
- H. Socio-Cultural Heritage Preservation



## RSPN WORK PLAN

(1 May 1994 - 1 May 1995)

Sl.	Activity	Date	Remarks
1	Trg. Workshop (NRTI)	Sometime in May	Environmental input
2	Release of Annual Report	23 May	Delayed due to Audit
3	Workshop on farming	Sometime in June	With Students of Punakha & Wangdi
4	Release of Takin Newsletter	2 June	As per schedule
5	Quiz Competition	4 June	Joint celebration of Coronation and World Environment Days
6	Workshop at Haa JHS	17-19 June	Strengthen the N/Club/ implement projects
7	Workshop at BFI	24-26 June	Awareness program for the trainees
8	Workshop at Chhuka HS	8-10 July	Strengthen the N/Club implement projects
9	Release of Rangzhin	14 July	As per Schedule
10	Monitor "Farming"	15-20 Aug.	"



11	Workshop at NIE	To be fixed	To train three batches of trainees if possible
12	Workshop at RIM	"	It is a new venture
13	Workshop at RTI	"	It is a new area
14	Workshop at TTC	"	For two batches of 11 year ( three days each )
15	Complete "Farming"	10-12 Sept.	Exhibition/Evaluation etc.
16	Culture Competition	During Thimphu Tsechu	For Thimphu valley schools
17	Final round to Dzongkhags	24Oct.-13 Nov.	Evaluation/Assessment of projects/activity
18	Release of Rangzhin	11 Nov.	As per schedule
19	"Farming " Award	10-16 Dec.	One of the Nature Reserves/ Other form of awards
20	Release of Takin	17 Dec.	As per Schedule
21	Teachers' workshop	To be fixed	In negotiation with Edn. div sometime in August 1994
22	Study/seminar/etc./ World Day	As and when required	
23	Release of Rangzhin	28 Feb.	As per schedule
24	Visits to Schools	April '95	To discuss about new projects and activities that schools can undertake



## Black Necked Crane Record for 1993 to 1994

DATE	MONTH	YEAR	TIME	No. of birds	REMARKS
26/10/93	OCT.	1993	11.30 am.	9 nos.	Landed on the Phobjikha roosting place, 3 old and 3 juveniles
27/10/93	"	"	"	"	"
28/10/93	"	"	"	"	"
29/10/93	"	"	"	7 nos.	Seen on the roosting place
30/10/93	"	"	12.00 am.	22 nos.	Counting in roosting place
31/10/93	"	"	"	"	"
1/11/93	NOV.	"	11.30 am.	37 nos.	Seen on the roosting place
2/11/93	"	"	4.30 am.	58 nos.	"
3/11/93	"	"	11.30 am.	"	"
4/11/93	"	"	"	83 nos.	On the ground (Bapta)
5/11/93	"	"	5.00 pm.	3 nos.	"
7/11/93	"	"	5.30 pm.	99 nos.	Seen on the rooster place
10/11/93	"	"	"	3 nos.	Bapta roosting place
17/11/93	"	"	"	169 nos.	"
20/11/93	"	"	5.30 pm.	186 nos.	"
24/11/93	"	"	"	189 nos.	"
30/11/93	"	"	"	190 nos.	"
2/12/93	DEC.	"	5.30 pm.	195 nos.	Evening
2/12/93	"	"	"	"	Morning
2/12/93	"	"	"	"	Evening
2/12/93	"	"	"	"	Morning
6/12/93	"	"	"	"	Evening
13/12/93	"	"	"	6 nos.	Beyta
20/12/93	"	"	"	195 nos.	"
31/12/93	"	"	"	"	"
10/1/94	JAN	1994	4.30 pm.	"	Evening counting at roosting place
11/1/94	"	"	"	"	Seen in roosting place in day time feeding in Khey wang and Taphu area.
25/1/94	"	"	9.00 am.	"	Feeding in Kewang Drappa area.
30/1/94	"	"	4.30 pm.	195 nos.	Counting at roosting place



31/1/94	"	"	4.30 am.	"	Counting at roosting and feeding place
5/2/94	FEB.	"	8.00 am.	7 nos.	At Khotokha, in feeding place
6/2/94	"	"	4.30 am..	"	Counted in roosting place evening and morning
7/2/94	"	"	8.00 am.	"	In Phobjikha
10/2/94	"	"	4.30 am. 1.00 pm.	NIL	went to see the BNC at Dkhukhag
15/2/94	"	"	4.30 pm.	195 nos.	No roosting, feeding 3 nos. Counting in roosting place
16/2/94	"	"	4.30 am.	"	"
25/2/94	"	"	"	"	"
26/2/94	"	"	"	"	"
30/2/94	"	"	4.30 pm.	6 nos.	Bayta roosting place
31/2/94	"	"	4.30 am.	"	In day time, counting in roosting place
9/3/94	MARCH	"	4.30 pm.	195 nos.	Counted in roosting place
10/3/94	"	"	"	"	Evening counting in roosting place and all the birds are feeding at Kheywang area in day time and they do the flying training
11/3/94	"	"	"	"	"
14/3/94	"	"	9.00 am.	20 nos.	flying back to Tibet
15/3/94	"	"	11.00 am.	10 nos.	"
17/3/94	"	"	"	30 nos.	"
18/3/94	"	"	11.30 am.	25 nos.	"
19/3/94	"	"	10.30 am.	20 nos.	"
20/3/94	"	"	"	33 nos.	"
22/3/94	"	"	7.30 am.	7 nos.	"
23/3/94	"	"	"	10 nos.	"
24/3/94	"	"	"	5 nos.	"
25/3/94	"	"	"	"	"
26/3/94	"	"	"	8 nos.	"
29/3/94	"	"	"	7 nos.	"
1/4/94	APRIL	"	10.30 am.	10 nos.	"
2/4/94	"	"	"	7 nos.	"
7/4/94	APRIL	"	10.30 am.	3 nos.	Back to Tibet
9/3/94	"	"	"	1 no.	Last flying to Tibet
6/5/94	MAY	"	"	1 no.	Spotted again



## APPENDIX I

## BUDGET FOR INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 1995/96 TO 1997/98

Sl. No.	Budget Head	1995/96 US \$	1996/97 US \$	1997/98 US \$	Grand Total US \$
1	Salaries				
	a) Staff Basic salary (Appendix II)	18,856	23,937	24,522	67,315
	b) Provident Fund (Appendix III)	1,704	2,170	2,226	6,100
2	Operation and maintenance of office	3,500	3,500	3,000	10,000
3	Purchase of vehicle for Program monitoring	23,000	-	-	23,000
4	Maintenance of Vehicles	5,500	6,000	6,500	18,000
5	Office furniture	6,000	5,000	4,500	15,500
6	Office supplies				
	b) Office supplies	7,000	6,500	6,500	20,000
7	Communication:				
	a) Purchase of fax machine	1,000	-	-	1,000
	b) Telephone with intercom system + installation	1,600	-	-	1,600
	c) Telephone/Fax expenses (Payment of bills)	4,000	4,200	4,500	12,700
	d) Postal expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
8	RSPN activities, programs not covered under any other budget head such as				
	a) Black Necked Crane Winter count	2,000	2,500	3,000	7,500
	b) RSPN promotional	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>78,160</b>	<b>57,807</b>	<b>58,748</b>	<b>194,715</b>

Total budget required for institutional support for the fiscal years 1995/96 TO 1997/98 is  
US \$ 194,715

United States Dollars One hundred and ninety four thousand, seven hundred and fifteen only



## APPENDIX II

## Budget for Conservation Education Project for Fiscal year 1995/96 to 1997/98

Sl. No.	Activities	1995/96 US \$	1996/97 US \$	1997/98 US \$
1	Greening the curriculum	800	900	1,000
2	Teacher training :			
	a) Pre-service	800	900	1,000
	b) In-service	4,000	5,000	6,000
3	Co-curricular Activities			
	i) Nature clubs	5000	5000	5000
	ii) Environment. Award Scheme	3,000	4,000	5,000
	iii) Debate	1,300	1,500	1,500
	iv) Quiz	800	900	1,000
	v) Drama	800	900	1,000
	vi) Art & Environment	1,300	1,400	1,500
	vii) Campaigns / World Environment Days	800	900	1,000
	viii) Youth Development Activities	800	900	1,000
4	Visits to Schools	2,000	2,500	3,000
5	Non-formal Education for			
	i) NRTI	300	500	400
	ii) BFI	300	500	400
	iii) ZTC	300	500	400
	iv) Religious groups	400	600	600
	v) Industrialist	400	600	600
	vi) Non Formal Instructors	400	600	600
	vii) Consumers	300	500	500
	viii) Female education (NWAB)	400	500	500
	ix) Shopkeepers / businessmen	400	500	500
6	Development of Green Community			
	i) Training of community leaders (Gups)	1,300	1,000	1,000
	ii) Study visits for community leaders	1,300	1,000	1,000
7	Development of materials	2,000	2,000	2,000
8	Procurement of reference materials	2,000	1,500	2,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31,200</b>	<b>35,100</b>	<b>38,500</b>

Grand total for Conservation Education Project for the fiscal year 1995/96 to 97/98 is  
US \$ 1,04,800



## APPENDIX III

COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT  
BUDGETARY BREAKDOWN FOR FISCAL YEARS 1995/96 TO 1997/98

*ACTIVITIES:*

	Activity	1995/96 US \$	1996/97 US \$	1997/98 US \$
1	Mobile Communication	1,000	1,500	1,500
2	Publications		6,500	7,000
3	Resource Development	7,000	7,000	7,000
4	Data Base	5,000	5,000	5,000
5	Salary for Environmental News Stringers	7,778	7,800	7,800
	Total	20,778	27,800	28,700

Total for three years= US \$ 77,278

*HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT:*

Sl.No	Programmes	Frequency (slots)	1995/96 US \$	1996/97 US \$	1997/98 US \$
1	Workshop/seminar	2	30,000	30,000	30,000
2	Courses	1	30,000	30,000	30,000
3	Study tours	2	5,000	5,000	5,000
	TOTAL		65,000	65,000	65,000

Total for three years= US \$ 19,5000

*EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT:*

Sl No	Activities	Items	Aprox. Amount US \$
1	Database	One computer with printer	8,000
2	Mobile communication	One mobile van with facilities	20,000
3	Resouce Development	production equipment	23,400
		TOTAL	51,400

Total for three years= US \$ 51,400



LEARNING DOESN'T END WITH SCHOOL

