



Sunkosh village, Tsirang/Karma Wangchuk, RSPN

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024



Royal Society for Protection of Nature

Inspiring personal responsibility for environmental conservation since 1987

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01 ACRONYMS

BFL	Bhutan for Life
BNC	Black-necked Crane
BNCVC	Black-necked Crane Visitor Center
BPC	Bhutan Power Corporation
BT FEC	Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation
BWS	Bomdeling Wildlife Sanctuary
CDB_COP	Convention on Biological Diversity_ Conference of the Parties
CFLI	Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
CNR	College of Natural Resources
DAMC.	Department of Agriculture Marketing Cooperatives
DAEs	Direct access applicants and accredited entities
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DoFPS	Department of Forests and Park Services
DHPS	Department of Hydropower Services
DoL	Department of Livestock
DOT	Department of Tourism
ESRAM	Ecosystem and Socio-economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict
ICF	International Crane Foundation
IEC	Information, Education and Communications
JDNP	Jigme Dorji National Park
JKSNR	Jigme Khesar Strict Nature Reserve
KNFC	Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund
LG	Local Government
LCSG	Local Conservation Support Group
MoAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
NABU	Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union
NDA	National Designated Authority
PHPA	Punatshangchu Hydroelectric Project Authority
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
RAA	Royal Audit Authority
RUB	Royal University of Bhutan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SHCD	Species and Habitat Conservation Division
SLD	Sustainable Livelihood Division
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UWICER	Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environmental Research
WBH	White-bellied Heron
WBHCC	White-bellied Heron Conservation Center

02 BACKGROUND

Royal Society for Protection of Nature (RSPN) has been implementing numerous projects in the field of Species and Habitat conservation, Wetlands and Freshwater Conservation, Environmental Education, Sustainable Livelihoods, Waste and Pollution, eventually gearing towards climate change adaptation and building societal and community resilience, and while also complementing the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) in meeting its vision and objectives.

Increasingly, as RSPN ventures into implementing many programs, it is important for RSPN to inform and foster partnership with implementing partners, stakeholders, and the targeted beneficiaries on the overall project goals and intended outputs and outcome.

This report will help to achieve the following objectives:

- Show RSPN's contribution in nation building.
- Inform our implementing partners of the various projects and activities.
- Clarify the role and responsibilities of the implementing partners.
- Garner support and cooperation from implementing partners for effective implementation of the project activities.
- Synergies efforts towards enhancing conservation of biodiversity ecosystems and building community resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Strengthen partnership and collaboration with RGoB, stakeholders and other development partners.

03 WHO IS RSPN?

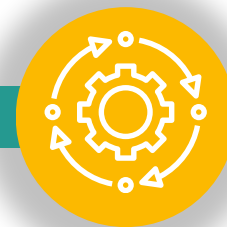
RSPN was established in 1987 under the Royal command of His Majesty the Fourth King of Bhutan as a citizen based Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) devoted to the conservation of the Kingdom’s environment. RSPN is a partner to the Royal Government of Bhutan that focuses on community engagement through livelihood projects and programs to ultimately build community ownership in conservation and climate adaptation and resilience.

His Majesty the King has granted Patron-ship to RSPN from 1999 to 2012. Her Majesty the Queen of Bhutan is the Royal Patron. RSPN is managed by a seven-Board Directors, the Executive Director is the Head of the organization and manages the day-to-day affairs.



VISION

To be the leader in conservation ensuring future generations of Bhutan live in an 'Environmentally Sustainable Society'.



MISSION

To inspire personal responsibility and active involvement of people of Bhutan in the conservation of the Kingdom’s environment through, education, community engagement and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

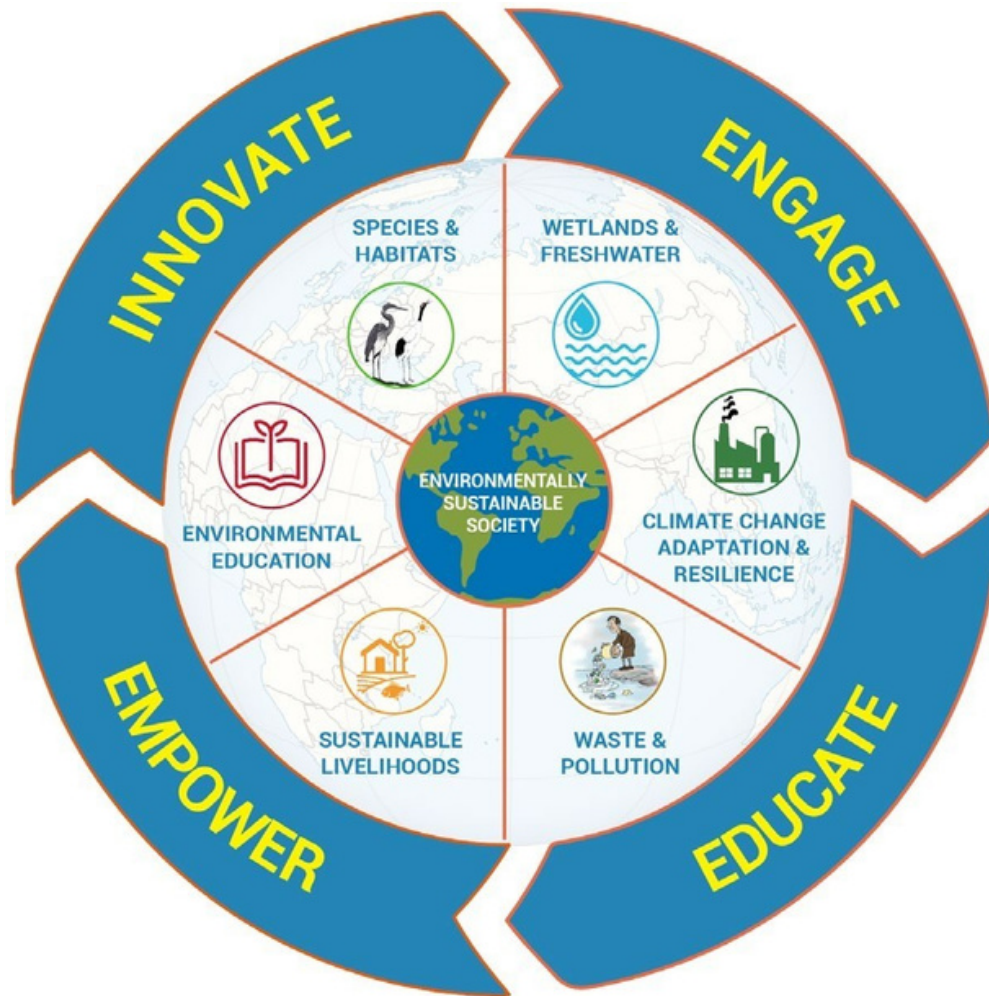


CORE VALUES

- Promote innovative technologies and methods.
- Be proactive towards environmental issues.
- RSPN’s Conservation Mandala.
- Be accountable and transparent.
- Be efficient and effective in delivering programs and services.

04 RSPN'S CONSERVATION MANDALA

The mandala represents our systemic approach and efforts, geared to implement sustainable solutions to emerging environmental challenges through, innovation, citizen engagement, education, and empowerment. The six thematic areas are initiated based on national and international priorities that are aligned to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Using this approach, it affirms our belief and commitment to addressing the global issues which are interdependent and connected in nature.



RSPN's Conservation Mandala

05 OVERALL PROJECT PROFILE

SI No	Project Title	Donor	Project Period	Total Approved Grant (USD)	Total Approved Grant (NU)
1	Developing Ecosystem-based Solutions for Managing Biodiversity Landscapes in Bhutan	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), Germany	01.07.2021-30.06.2026	4,606,894.00	353,460,000.00
2	Operational cost of White-bellied Heron Conservation Center Chachey, Tsirang, Bhutan	MAVA Foundation, Switzerland	01.01.2024-31.12.2024	272,589.00	22,355,023.89
3	Securing White-bellied Heron Population in Bhutan	Synchronicity Earth,London	01.08.2023-31.12.2025	74,579.94	6,114,654.96
4	White-bellied Heron Conservation in Bhutan	ICFC Canada	15.01.2023-30.06.2024	20,000.00	1,634,400.00
5	BNC Conservation Project-Year 3, Gr. VI	International Crane Foundation ,USA	1.09.2022-31.03.2024	35,000.00	2,796,920.00
6	Research and Conservation of Black-necked Crane in Bhutan	NABU,Germany	01.01.2024-31.12.2024	10,361.45	860,000.35
7	Conservation of BNC through Wetland Management in Bhutan	Bird Life, Asia	01.04.2024-30.04.2025	28,116.63	2,333,680.29
8	WBH Conservation	Christopher Hunt,USA	01.01.2024-31.12.2024	10,000.00	830,000.00
9	BNCEC Enhancement	International Crane Foundation ,USA	01.05.2024-31.12.2026	238,475.60	19,793,474.80
10	Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Marginalized Communities of Lauri Geowg, Bhutan to the Impact of Climate Change.	Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI)	01.04.2023-29.02.2024	31,392.68	2,574,200.00
11	Development and Promotion of Community-based Ecotourism at Jigmechhu Village	Bhutan Foundation	01.10.2022-31.03.2024	14,987.50	1,242,835.00
12	Establish Hot Water Bathing Facility to Student of Lingzhi Lower Secondary School	Christopher Hunt, USA	01.08.2023-31.08.2024	30,000.00	2,475,082.44
13	Towards Climate Resilience Inclusive WASH Services in Rural Bhutan	SNV Bhutan	23.08.2023 - 31.12.2024	31,850.00	2,643,550.00
14	Training on Homestay Management and General Ecotourism Program to Homestay Owners	GEF-SGP, UNDP Bhutan & Department of Tourism	01.01.2024-31.03.2024	25,000.00	2,075,000.00
15	Strengthening Capacities and Enhancing Climate Data and Services in Bhutan to Scale-up Climate Financing from Multiple Sources	GCF Readiness,South Korea	01.04.2024-31.03.2026	991,452.00	81,299,064.00
16	Strengthening Capacity to Enhance Knowledge and Skills in Conservation	Foundation Hans Wilsdorf, Switzerland	01.01.2024-31.12.2026	450,000.00	36,900,000.00
			Grand Total	6,870,698.80	539,387,885.73

Exchange rate: USD 1= Nu 83/-

Note* RSPN has put forward six new project proposals to international donors and is currently in anticipation of their response.

06 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024

SI No	Project	Total Approved Grant for 2024 (USD)	Total Approved Grant for 2024 (Nu)
1	Developing Ecosystem-based Solutions for Managing Biodiversity Landscapes in Bhutan	1,067,376.61	88,592,258.63
2	Operational cost of White-bellied Heron (<i>Ardea insignis</i>) Conservation Center Changchey, Tsirang, Bhutan	142,793.20	11,710,470.33
3	Securing White-bellied Heron Population in Bhutan	20,743.27	1,721,691.41
4	White-bellied Heron Conservation in Bhutan	1700.00	141,100.00
5	BNC Conservation Project-Year 3, Gr. VI	10,387.01	862,121.83
6	Research and Conservation of Black-necked Crane in Bhutan	10,361.45	860,000.35
7	Conservation of BNC through Wetland Management in Bhutan	30,000.00	2,490,000.00
8	WBH Conservation	10,000.00	830,000.00
9	BNCEC Enhancement	50,000.00	4,150,000.00
10	Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Marginalized Communities of Lauri Geowg, Bhutan to the Impact of Climate Change.	5834.00	484,222.00
11	Development and Promotion of Community-based Ecotourism at Jigmechhu Village	7,500.00	622,500.00
12	Establish Hot Water Bathing Facility to Student of Lingzhi Lower Secondary School	9,000.00	747,000.00
13	Towards Climate Resilience Inclusive WASH Services in Rural Bhutan	31,850.00	2,643,550.00
14	Training on Homestay Management and General Ecotourism Program to Homestay Owners	25,000.00	2,075,000.00
15	Strengthening Capacities and Enhancing Climate Data and Services in Bhutan to Scale-up Climate Financing from Multiple Sources	515,126.00	42,755,458.00
16	Strengthening Capacity to Enhance Knowledge and Skills in Conservation	150,000.00	12,450,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL	2,087,671.54	173,135,372.55

Exchange rate: USD 1= Nu 83/-

Note* RSPN has put forward six new project proposals to international donors and is currently in anticipation of their response.

07 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SPECIES CONSERVATION DIVISION

Project Title	i.Developing Ecosystem-based solutions for Managing Biodiversity Landscapes in Bhutan
Project Period	July 2021- June 2026
Approved Grant	USD 4,606,894.00
Donor	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), Germany

PROJECT SUMMARY

The White-Bellied Heron (WBH), historically known from the Eastern Himalayan foothills, is no more reported from many of its home range. This state of affairs is attributed to the shrinking habitats of WBH, owing to increasing anthropogenic pressures in the face of changing climate. Currently, only about 60 individual birds are reported worldwide with the highest from Bhutan (*Recorded 26 birds in 2017*). The ecology, biology and population dynamics of this bird is little known. Despite conservation efforts, there is a growing concern over the shrinking population of WBH in Bhutan. The riparian ecosystem and WBH habitats are transforming at an alarming pace with the increasing number of developmental activities and the fast-growing infrastructure development. Loss of feeding and nesting habitat due to land use change, disruption of flyways and increased disturbances are potentially the dominant factor driving the WBH population decline.

The project aims to restore damaged WBH feeding and roosting sites in collaboration with hydropower projects and communities to reduce negative impacts brought about by developmental activities. The project also aims to provide an alternative economic and employment opportunities and to garner support for WBH conservation activities through community incentive-based and participatory approach to project planning and implementation.

PROJECT GOAL

Develop ecosystem-based solutions for managing biodiversity landscapes, with special objective to establish approaches and tools for protecting and managing WBH habitats.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

Effective adaptive ecosystem solutions for WBH conservation in Bhutan (and other Himalayan countries) created through habitat restoration and livelihoods enhancement.

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Effective adaptive ecosystem solutions for WBH conservation in Bhutan (and other Himalayan countries) created through habitat restoration and livelihoods enhancement.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

1.Ecosystem-based biodiversity survey and community engagement strategies for WBH conservation based on ESRAM approach, designed and applied.

2.Degraded and new potential WBH habitats rehabilitated and created (feeding, roosting and nesting).

3.Capacity of all stakeholders on planning and implementation of ESRAM study, ecosystem-based adaptation and livelihood options strengthened.

4.Ecosystem-based adaptation livelihood options in the WBH habitat areas, applied and established.

5.Knowledge base on ecosystem-based biodiversity conservation, WBH habitat & population and climate adaptation, established and disseminated.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	WBH habitat restoration - Tree plantation on landfill/degraded areas	53,646.66	April	June	RSPN	DoFPS/LG/ communities
2	WBH Conservation - Survey & identify potential WBH nesting site	12,389.98	April	June	RSPN	DoFPS/LCSG
3	WBH Conservation - Conduct Education, awareness & advocacy program	23,417.71	April	August	RSPN	DoFPS/LG/ Communities
4	WBH conservation -WBH monitoring by LCSG	22,531.17	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoFPS/LCSG

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
5	Ecotourism – Carry out training on Souvenir development	10,552.02	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoT/LGs
6	Ecotourism – Development of Bylaws and Business Plan for Ecotourism group) - 4 sites	11,741.29	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoFPS/LGs
7	Climate-smart Agri /water conservation & management- Carry out training on Water management & water source revival	16,541.60	Jan	June	RSPN	DoFPS/DoA/LG
8	ICT- IEC Materials - Produce Documentary of the project - (<i>Outsource to consultancy firm</i>)	5,189.52	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
9	IEC Materials- Advertisement for Climate Smart Agriculture promotional video	4,757.06	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
10	IEC Materials- Advertisement for Eco-tourism-promotional video	4,757.06	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
11	Development of promotional IEC Materials for Eco-tourism (<i>travel guide book, brochures, homestay guideline</i>)	3,697.53	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
12	Printing of IEC Materials for Eco-tourism (<i>travel guide book, brochures, homestay guidelines</i>)	4,865.18	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
13	Develop Signage of WBH, Climate Smart Agriculture; Eco-tourism	13,665.74	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
14	Hold WBH National Coordination/ Planning meetings	11,308.83	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoFPS/LCSG

Project Title	ii. Operational cost of White-bellied Heron (<i>Ardea insignis</i>) Conservation Center Chachey, Tsirang, Bhutan
Project Period	Long- term (Endowment fund established)
Approved Grant	USD 142,793.20
Donor	MAVA Foundation , Switzerland

PROJECT SUMMARY

White-bellied Heron bird is Critically Endangered and considering its current population status, survival rate,distribution and changing environment, it is apparent to step up the conservation effort.

The conservation effort needs to be taken into consideration for the survival of WBH through adaptive measures in the risk of climate change and increasing anthropogenic activities in the habitats of WBH. Therefore, the establishment of a conservation & breeding Center would be one of the appropriate conservation approaches for this Critically Endangered species. The conservation & breeding center will not only serve to conserve the WBH gene pool but would also be a center for breeding of herons to be released in the wild to increase the wild breeding population. It would also serve as the center of WBH scientific research.

PROJECT GOAL:

Preserve and increase the WBH population in Bhutan through captive breeding and release program, habitat conservation and other mitigation measures.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To conserve an ex-situ gene-pool of the Critically Endangered, White-bellied Heron.
- To establish a White-bellied Heron conservation & breeding and rearing facility Centre in Bhutan.
- To continue conservation efforts with research, monitoring and to increase the population through captive breeding and release programs.
- To capacitate key partners in conservation, research, and training and establish a center for information sharing.
- To increase public and agency awareness and community participation in conservation of White-bellied Heron.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

Conserved WBH through ex-situ measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

- 1.Captive rearing successfully undertaken using the captive breeding facilities.
- 2.Trainee foresters/researchers engaging actively in captive rearing activities.
- 3.Increased deeper understanding of WBH ecological relationships, habitat preferences, and population dynamics with better understanding of the needs and options for its conservation and protection.
- 4.Local people and governmental agencies actively engaged in monitoring and conserving WBH and their habitats.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Travel, Transport, and Vehicle maintenance at White-bellied Heron Conservation Center	15,812.50	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
2	Meetings, Training, and Workshop	11,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
3	White-bellied Heron Breeding, Rearing and facility improvement cost	10,450.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
4	Fish supply and Fishpond management	8800.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-

Project Title	iii. Securing White-bellied Heron Population in Bhutan
Project Period	September 1,2023 - December 31, 2025
Approved Grant	USD 50,000.00
Donor	Synchronicity Earth, London

PROJECT SUMMARY:

White-bellied Heron is listed as a critically endangered species with low population numbers and with a continuous declining population trend. To revive the low population, a captive breeding programme was initiated as an immediate and alternative conservation measure for the species. Through the captive breeding center or the conservation center of the heron, RSPN aims to raise and release the herons in the wild later. However, without an adequate facilities like bird aviaries and fish-raising ponds hinder achieving the target of releasing the heron.

Today, the White-bellied Heron Conservation Center has five aviaries constructed and two of the aviaries are utilized in raising three of the herons in the center. In the year 2023,three additional chicks were collected from the wild to raise in the center, however, due to the skeletal deformation disease, all the three chicks could not survive. In the next breeding season, chicks will be collected from the wild and raised in the center. Therefore, additional aviaries are urgently needed to accommodate the chicks. The construction of additional aviary and fish ponds will help in raising the additional birds in the center. This will ultimately help in reviving the declining population of the heron.

Some portion of the fund will be also utilized in conducting an inventory of new potential habitats of White-bellied Heron that were not previously explored. Earlier with limited funding, still there are some potential habitats of herons that are unexplored within Bhutan. With this funding, the survey will be conducted especially in the southeastern part of Bhutan. The inventory conducted will help in future conservation planning in the area and also help in evaluating the areas whether they can be used as future release areas for the captive-raised herons.

PROJECT GOAL:

Enhance the conservation of White-bellied Heron through ex-situ and in-situ approaches.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Build facilities at WBHCCC to accommodate more captive breeding populations.
- Conduct habitat inventories of WBH.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

- Conserved WBH through ex-situ and in-situ measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

- 1.Captive rearing successfully undertaken using the captive breeding facilities.
- 2.New habitat inventories explored.

Project implementation plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Conduct WBH habitat inventories (Jomori, Amochhu)	20,743.27	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoFPS

Project Title	iv.White-bellied Heron Conservation in Bhutan
Project Period	January 15, 2023 - June 30, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 20,000.00
Donor	International Conservation Fund of Canada (ICFC)

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Given the critical status of the species, the international action plan has made it a priority to develop conservation breeding in addition to actions in the field. This will preserve and diversify the gene pool and serve as a breeding center for the reintroduction of individuals into the wild. The White-bellied Heron Conservation Center was established in 2021 in Bhutan, not far from the nesting grounds of two breeding pairs. Major infrastructure for the Center was supported by Punatsangchu Hydropower Company. The center aims to:

- 1.Preserve the gene pool for all times
- 2.Breed and mass produce herons in captivity
- 3.Carry out research and knowledge development
- 4.Rescue and rehabilitate and reduce mortality of wild herons and
- 5.Coordinate public education and awareness to sustain conservation efforts.

PROJECT GOAL:

Saving the White-bellied Heron requires urgent action in the field and captivity. In collaboration with the IUCN task force, international experts, range country and national partners, the RSPN has set itself the goal of restoring and stabilizing the population of White-bellied Herons over the next two decades.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Establish a conservation breeding center and secure the gene pool for breeding and reintroduction.
- Scale up conservation and research in the field, including monitoring populations and nests, restoring and protecting critical habitats, mitigating major threats, and understanding its ecology and biology.
- Improve inter-agency collaboration in infrastructure planning and development within critical habitats, strengthen regional and global networks, conservation coordination and cooperation.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

- Established captive WBH population.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

1. Inaccessible WBH habitats, population and nests surveyed.

Project Title	v.BNC Conservation Project-Year 3, Grant VI
Project Period	September 1,2022- March 31,2024
Approved Grant	USD 34,815.56
Donor	International Crane Foundation, USA

PROJECT SUMMARY:

RSPN has been engaged in the conservation of the wintering Black-necked Cranes (BNC) and its habitats in Bhutan since its inception in 1987. Since then, in partnership with the RGoB and local communities, RSPN has implemented diverse conservation measures for BNC conservation through education, community participation and research. In particular, RSPN has been instrumental in the conservation of wetlands in Phobjikha and Bumdeling. Bhutan receives more than 600 numbers of cranes annually with the highest number visiting Phobjikha valley.

The first BNC migration study was conducted in 1998. Two cranes in Bumdeling were tagged with satellite transmitters by the International Crane Foundation and RSPN. The tagged cranes flew to Xigatse and then to Xianza in the Tibetan Autonomous Region in China. Since then, few more cranes were tagged in Phobjikha and Bumdeling. Through this tagging program RSPN have learnt that the cranes from Bumdeling summered much further North-West of Bhutan than the cranes of Phobjikha.

With the confirmation of Labana in Haa as the new breeding site of BNC, detailed study of the site as well as ascertaining their winter site, migration routes and other stopovers would be essential. We will plan track juveniles with GPS transmitters in the following breeding seasons. Partnering with important stakeholders would be the first step for effectively conserving the habitat of these birds, although it falls within the strict nature reserve. We will be educating the yak herders in terms of the habitat requirement and behavior of the birds and importance of living harmoniously with the birds.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Improve knowledge on migratory routes of BNC summering in Bhutan and identification of (potential) threats during migration.
- Determination of wintering sites of Black-necked Cranes in Haa.
- Analyzing habitat use of Black-necked Cranes in summering sites in Bhutan.
- Identification of important BNC feeding and roosting sites.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024						
Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Bird solar GPRS/UMTS Transmitter	7410.00	Jan	March	RSPN	DoFPS
2	Transport and Travel	2500.00	Jan	March	RSPN	-

Project Title	vi. Research and Conservation of Black-necked Crane in Bhutan
Project Period	January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 10,361.45
Donor	NABU, Germany

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) is the only alpine crane species in the world. Its distribution spreads over different areas in China, Tibet, Bhutan, India and Vietnam. Generally, land use change and the loss of wetland habitats are identified as main causes for the species decline. But knowledge in regard to its migration routes is relatively rare. This is specifically the case for BNC wintering in Bhutan. Cross-country cooperation between crane conservationists in the respective countries is limited.

The Project aim is to gain more information on the species migratory routes and make data available for future conservation activities. Gained information will be used to formulate recommendations for future conservation activities. Data management capacities of crane conservationists in Bhutan shall be enhanced. Exchange between crane conservationists shall be promoted. Finally, the public in Bhutan shall be informed to promote crane conservation.

Within the project, BNC wintering in Bhutan will be tagged with GPS UMTS transmitters and observed in four wintering periods between 2018-2022. At the end of the project, a transboundary workshop on the conservation of BNC will be implemented. Crane conservationists and stakeholders of neighboring countries will be invited. The event will be used to present project findings and bring actors in crane research and conservation together. The long-term aim is to link crane conservationists of different countries for future cross-country projects for the protection of Cranes.

PROJECT GOAL

The project aims to contribute to research and conservation of the BNC in Bhutan. In particular the project will have the following specific objectives.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Improve knowledge on migratory routes of BNC wintering in Bhutan and Identification of (potential) threats during migration.
- Determination of breeding sites of BNC overwintering in Bhutan.
- Analyzing habitat use of BNC in wintering sites in Bhutan
- Identification of important feeding and roosting sites during wintering in order to create action and management plans to increase winter survival of BNC in Bhutan.
- Strengthen local capacities in crane monitoring and development of material for the public to enhance awareness for BNC.
- Support transboundary cooperation in crane conservation and establish communication linkage amongst the range countries for conservation of BNC.

PROJECT OUTCOME/OUTPUT:

- 1.Habitat preferences of wintering BNC determined.
- 2.Migratory routes and summer habitats of BNC identified.
- 3.Transboundary conservation collaboration strengthened.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	BNCEC Management	10,361.45	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-

Project Title	vii. Conservation of BNC through Wetland Management in Bhutan
Project Period	January 1,2024 - December 31,2024
Approved Grant	USD 28,116.63
Donor	Bird Life, Asia

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The Phobjikha Valley is located at an elevation of 3000 masl and has a population of about 5000 people. The valley consists of two administrative blocks, Phobji and Gangtey gewogs and lies adjacent to the Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park (JSWNP) and falls on biological corridors linking JSWNP and Jigme Dorji National Park (JDNP). In 2016, the area was declared as one of the important wetland areas in Bhutan under the RAMSAR convention. The valley hosts a variety of flora and fauna species and provides numerous ecosystem services to the communities dependent on it.

There was an increase in agriculture and settlement land use that led to a decrease in marshes in the Phobjikha wetland from 1978 to 2010. This was driven mainly by the commercialization of agriculture in the valley, affecting both the environment and livelihood sustainability. Since the introduction of potatoes in the valley in the early 1980s, agrochemical usage has become common in the landscape to enable large-scale potato production. Based on information in the Phobjikha Management Plan of 2006- 2010, Phobjikha Valley produces approximately 30% of total potato production in Bhutan, making potatoes a major source of income for people in Phobjikha Valley. To meet market demand, agrochemicals became an integral part of potato farming in the valley. It was estimated that each potato-producing household uses a total of 289 kg of pesticides and 470.5 kg of herbicides annually (RSPN, 2010). These inputs could have invariably increased over the years. While there have been no scientific studies done, experts have flagged the possibility of eutrophication of the wetlands due to the overuse of chemical fertilizers. This would have devastating impacts on the Phobjikha wetland, reducing the suitability of the habitat for the BNC, other wetland-dependent species and even local communities. The production of potatoes at a commercial scale has also encouraged farmers to practice monoculture which is a risky farming method as they are now vulnerable to economic downturns if potato harvests are adversely affected by climate change or the occurrence of a crop disease in the area.

To address these threats, this project intends to build baseline data for specific intervention measures in the future. Assessments will be conducted on various physical and biological components of the Phobjikha Valley wetland. This will include assessing the quality of water, soil and vegetation, and the status of flora and fauna. The study will also gather information on agrochemical usage by the farmers. By obtaining and analyzing updated and relevant data, the results of this study will enable us to have a strong understanding of the conditions and threats to the BNC and its habitat in Phojikha. It will guide future intervention measures and project implementation in the area, and enhance the effectiveness of conservation interventions.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

1. To gather baseline data on the current environmental condition of the BNC's habitat in Phobjikha Valley.
2. To build the capacity of local communities and relevant stakeholders in mitigating threats to the wetland.
3. To raise the profile of wetland and BNC conservation through awareness-raising activities for the public and the scientific community.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Conduct water quality and soil tests, and assess vegetation	12,533.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	NSSC
2	Organize study tours for selected farmers and relevant stakeholders to adopt best practices in wetland management	6633.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-

Project Title	viii.Conserving White-bellied Heron in Bhutan
Project Period	January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 10,000.00
Donor	Christopher Hunt,USA

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The current habitats of the WBH are disturbed with anthropogenic activities, infrastructure development and natural calamities. Situations like this have led to displacement of the bird with forced adaptation at the lower and relatively safer places along Punatsangchhu and Mangdechhu basin. In order to secure the population of WBH there is need to upscale both in-situ and ex-situ conservations.

While ex-situ conservation could help secure a gene pool, breed, and produce herons in larger numbers, it is in-situ conservation that will ultimately help herons to survive and flourish in the wilds. Hence, this project intends to upscale in-situ conservation efforts of protecting key habitats and stabilizing the wild population through habitat inventories and mapping, population surveys and monitoring, habitat protection and restoration, research and information development, community mobilization and engagement, and education and advocacy programs.

PROJECT GOAL:

To increase and maintain the ecologically viable population of WBH through in-situ and ex-situ conservation measures.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

- New suitable habitats identified.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

- 1.New habitat inventories conducted.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Conduct WBH habitat inventories at khalatsho and Tsoki area)	10,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DoFPS

Project Title	ix. Black-necked Crane Education Centre Enhancement
Project Period	May 1,2024 - December 31,2026
Approved Grant	USD 238,475.60
Donor	International Crane Fund (ICF),USA

PROJECT SUMMARY:

As one of the many efforts toward educating the visitors and the local people, RSPN in 2000 constructed the Black-necked Crane Education Centre (BNCEC) in Phobjikha. The centre is intended to provide facilities, information to the visitors related to the Black-necked Cranes and other information of conservation importance in the valley. However, with growing tourism and anthropogenic activities in the valley, there was a need for the visitor centre to assume a bigger role in terms of education and awareness to the visitors and local community. This necessitated enhancing the facilities and capacity of the visitor centre and its management.

In 2022, an additional floor was constructed to accommodate more visitors and to enhance the facilities to engage the visitors. Various visual educational displays and models relating to the Black-necked crane, the wetland and other ecological aspect of the valley will be developed and installed in the upgraded centre. The existing information board will also be updated and improved.

Other visual education tools like audio-visual equipment will be installed in the visitor centre. The equipment will provide visual information on nature and culture in Phobjikha. These educational amenities are intended to provide useful firsthand information for visitors and students and generate awareness on the ecological richness of the area.

PROJECT GOAL:

To enhance conservation of BNC.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Enhancement of BNCEC.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

- Capacity of BNCEC is strengthened while self-sustaining the management of the centre.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

- 1.Information panels updated and visitor engagement amenities developed and installed.
- 2.A naturalist recruited for BNCEC.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Development and installation of information boards	12,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
2	Development and installation of interactive display	4000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
3	Procurement of souvenirs for gift shop	10,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
4	Designing and engineering	1700.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
5	Furniture for Observation room	2000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
6	Repainting of interior walls	3000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-

08 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DIVISION

Project Title	i. Enhancing Climate Resilience of Marginalized Communities of Lauri Gewog, Bhutan to impact of Climate Change
Project Period	April 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 31,392.68
Donor	Canada Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI)

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Lauri Gewog is the remotest administrative block in Samdrup Jongkhar District in eastern Bhutan and the communities mainly depend on rain-fed subsistence farming and ecosystem services for livelihood. Pursuing agriculture however is challenging, due to its dependence on erratic monsoon rain for agriculture, low productivity owing to rugged terrain, wildlife encroachment, and drying of water resources amongst others. The communities also depend on the collection and sale of non-wood forest products such as Star Anise (Spice), which are used as a spice, flavoring tea, and medicine. While dependence on ecosystem services is high, there is a need for proper management and conservation for the sustenance of livelihood in the long run. As such fragile and delicate sources of livelihood are extremely vulnerable to slight changes in the climate, the proposed project seeks to build the climate resilience of these communities through climate-resilient approaches.

The interventions will mainly focus on improving farm yield through ecological intensification of agro-ecosystems at a landscape design, water resources conservation, developing a conservation management plan for star anise forest and improving post-harvest facilities. Activities will encompass soil conservation through sustainable land management; agro-forestry through the support of horticultural and fodder trees; watershed and spring shed management; develop a conservation management plan for Star Anise forest; enhancing postharvest systems; improvement of market access through capacity development, technology transfer, value addition, and supporting basic farming inputs and so forth. The program will be implemented over a year from May 2023 to February 2024.

PROJECT GOAL:

To enhance the community's resilience to climate change by promoting environmentally, socially, and ecologically sound livelihood options in the remotest Gewog in eastern Bhutan.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To improve farmland, diversify farming, integrate agroforestry, and water resource management for sustainable farming and food production.
- To enhance conservation and management of star anise and the upstream watershed/spring shed for the sustenance ecosystem services.
- To improve the market for agriculture and star anise through appropriate approach and mechanisms.

PROJECT OUTCOME/OUTPUT:

- 25 acres of farmland will be brought under sustainable land management and at least 200 households are supplied with fodder and horticulture/high-value timber tree saplings.
- One lake revived and five water sources will be conserved, and the conservation management plan developed and implemented for the Star Anise.
- Post-harvest and marketing linkages for both farm and non-wood forest products.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Conduct hands-on Training and implement Sustainable Land Management (SLM: Live Bunding/Hedgerow and Stone Terracing)	5834.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	Local Government of Lauri, Samdrup Jongkhar

Project Title	ii. Development and Promotion Community-based Ecotourism at Jigme Chu
Project Period	October 1, 2022 – March 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 14,971.73
Donor	Bhutan Foundation

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Jigme Chu is home to hundreds of flora and fauna species such as peacocks, barking-deer, rufous-necked hornbill, wreathed hornbill, and many butterfly species. It is accessible by a farm road and has good network coverage. The existence of an integrated check-post with police, immigration, forest and BAFRA (Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority) in Jigme Chu ensures safety and emergency services to the visitors and tourists.

With easy access and a beautiful and pristine natural environment, Jigme Chu is already a popular winter recreational destination for Bhutanese, with more than 500 visitors every winter. While the area is increasingly becoming popular among locals, currently the tourism activities in the area are limited, unorganized, and not regulated. Visitors take advantage of the natural resources in the area with little or no benefits to the local communities. Without a properly managed tourism program in the area, increasing environmental footprints may eventually undermine the natural resources in the area. In this context, Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration initiated Ecotourism in Jigme Chu at the beginning of 2019. As an initial preparation, a feasibility study was conducted and preliminary information on potential ecotourism products was documented. Based on the study, three campsites with basic amenities have been developed, which are expected to be operational this winter. With the growing number of visitors and dearth of accommodation in the area, campsites offer an ideal alternative and an attractive ecotourism experience for the visitors. To operationalize the campsite successfully and also to ensure future sustainability, there is a need for management frameworks to be in place with information signage for visitors.

The campsite is one among the many ecotourism products that have the potential to bring economic benefits to the communities in the area. Currently, communities do not have any reliable source of income other than the sale of oranges and laborers to the community contractors. The communities have taken up farming recently with support from RSPN but due to a lack of market, people cultivate mostly for self-consumption, and crop loss to wildlife is a major challenge. Ecotourism initiative at Jigme Chu; therefore, comes as an avenue to diversify and supplement the economic gap, providing an alternative source of income and job opportunities for the local communities, and promoting small-scale enterprise in the area. As campsite services are piloted, this project plans to integrate other potential ecotourism activities such as the promotion of long-term engagement of communities and youth groups, capacity building of youth groups and communities on ecotourism, and small-scale enterprise.

PROJECT GOAL:

Develop and promote long-term youth engagement for ecotourism and small-scale enterprise programs in Jigme Chu.

PROJECT OUTCOME/OUTPUT:

- Long-term engagement of youth group in ecotourism program promoted through the development of management framework and business plan.
- Capacity building of youth group on ecotourism and small-scale enterprise development initiated.
- Ecotourism products and services enhance and improved.
- Project Progress Monitoring Report documented.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Support cottage setup (Eco-Cabins)	5500.00	Jan	June	RSPN	Local Government of Chukha District
2	Support Water Supply System	750.00	Jan	June	RSPN	Local Government of Chukha District

Project Title	iii. Establish Hot Water Bathing Facility to student of Lingzhi Lower Secondary School
Project Period	August 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 30,000.00
Donor	Christopher Hunt,USA

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is an important social sector and already there is huge pressure both in urban and rural areas to ensure safe and adequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene management. Likewise, Lingzhi Lower Secondary School located in one of the highest altitudes in Thimphu District, faces challenges in ensuring safe sanitation and hygiene facilities to create a conducive learning environment and enhance overall well-being of the school community. Safely managed sanitation services and hygiene facilities not only benefit public health and hygiene but can accelerate economic growth, enhance people’s dignity, create a better future for all, and strengthen clean water and environment ecosystem. In this context, RSPN pursues to support the establishment of Hot Water Bathing Facilities for the students. This grant is intended to complement the Dzongkhag’s Plan in Improving Sanitation through provision of hot water facilities to students in Lingzhi Lower Secondary School under Thimphu District.

PROJECT GOAL:

To establish bathing facilities for 70 boarding children of Lingzhi lower secondary school.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

- 1.To enhance the overall wellbeing of students, improve the quality of education by minimizing hygiene-related challenges, create a conducive environment to attract and retain enrollment, and ultimately improve the academic performance of the students at Lingzhi Lower Secondary School.
- 2.To uplift the educational experience and prospects of the students while ensuring a healthy and nurturing environment for their growth and development.

PROJECT OUTCOME/OUTPUT:

- Establish one number of Hot Water Bathing Facility for 70 boarding students.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024						
Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Construction of Hot Water Bathing Facility	3105.00	Jan	Aug	RSPN	Local Government of Thimphu District

Project Title	iv. Towards Climate Resilient Inclusive WASH Services in Rural Bhutan
Project Period	August 23, 2023 – December 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 31,850.00
Donor	SNV Bhutan

PROJECT SUMMARY:

SNV in collaboration with Institute of Sustainable Futures (ISF), the governments of Nepal, Bhutan and Lao PDR and local partners have implemented 3 aligned projects within a 5-year agreement as part of the Australian Government’s Water for Women (WfW) Fund governed by a contract agreement with GHD Pvt. Ltd in their contracted role as the ‘Fund Coordinator’ and it ended in Dec 2022. The project has been extended for 2 years commencing from Jan 2023 to Dec 2024 with a strengthened focus on climate resilient inclusive Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services. Through partnership with RSPN, it intentionally seeks to bring in local knowledge and practices in water resource management, support in designing and providing training on water/spring shed management and bring in climate change expertise to the project to adapt and respond to the impact of climate change on WASH facilities and services. RSPN and SNV have previously collaborate from 2014-2018 in implementing the WASH programme in Samtse District led by PHED of Ministry of Health. This partnership would provide a framework for collaboration, strengthening the impact and effectiveness of both organizations.

PROJECT GOAL:

To adapt and respond to the impact of climate change on WASH facilities and services.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To bring in local knowledge and practices in water resource management, support in designing and providing training on water/spring shed management in 3 targeted project districts of Chhukha, Dagana, Zhemgang and Trashigang.

PROJECT OUTCOME/OUTPUT:

- Pilot training on spring shed management in one RWSS at Chhukha.
- Roll out spring shed management to six rural water schemes.
- Developed one management model and coping mechanism.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Partnership Technical Support on integration of Spring shed Management in Rural Water Supply Schemes: present guideline and tools on spring shed management, polit spring shed training, roll out spring shed management in RWSS, incorporate model and mechanisms and monitoring	31,850.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	Local Government of Chhukha, Dagana, Zhemgang and Trashigang Districts.

Project Title	v. Training on Homestay Management and general Ecotourism program to homestay owners
Project Period	January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024
Approved Grant	USD 25,000.00
Donor	GEF-SGP, UNDP Bhutan & Department of Tourism

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Homestays are a popular form of accommodation for visitors as part of ecotourism program, where visitors stay with local families and experience the cultural and traditional way of life in Bhutan. Homestay management involves several key aspects such as ensuring hygiene, safety, comfort to guests, ensuring responsible waste management, promoting local products and services, and minimizing the impact on the environment and local communities. By effectively managing homestays, Bhutan can offer unique and authentic experiences to visitors while also benefiting local communities by providing additional income opportunities and preserving their cultural heritage. However, homestay management involves providing training and capacity building programs for homestay owners and hosts to improve their hospitality skills, knowledge and local culture, and ensure a memorable experience for visitors. In this regard, training and capacity building programs on homestay management and general ecotourism program will be initiated with co-funding support from the Department of Tourism and UNDP-GEF as part of Ecotourism Flagship Program.

PROJECT GOAL:

To enhance capacity of homestay owners on homestay management and general ecotourism program.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To conduct training on homestay management and general ecotourism program to homestay owners.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024

Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Training and capacity building of homestay owners on homestay management and general ecotourism program	25,000.00	Jan	June	RSPN	Local Government

Project Title	vi. Strengthening Capacities and Enhancing Climate Data and Services in Bhutan to Scale-up Climate Financing from Multiple Sources
Project Period	April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2026
Approved Grant	USD 991,452.00
Donor	GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, South Korea

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Bhutan faces significant challenges in maintaining carbon neutrality and addressing climate vulnerabilities across critical sectors. The GCF Country Work Program (CWP) has identified capacity gaps, including a need for more reliable baseline data and technical expertise on climate change. These gaps hinder Bhutan's ability to pursue sustainable development with low carbon emissions and climate resilience. To achieve these goals, cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder efforts are necessary to identify baseline conditions and projected impacts of climate change.

The Readiness project aims to enhance access to climate finance by strengthening the technical and institutional capacity of various stakeholders such as the National Designated Authority (NDA), Ministry of Finance (MoF);RSPN which secured an NDA endorsement for DAE application, and potential Executing Entities (EEs), including Bhutan Ecological Society (BES), Tarayana Foundation, and Youth Development Fund (YDF). The proposed readiness project will contribute towards meeting the GCF Readiness Objectives One (Capacity Building), Two (Strategic Frameworks), and Five (Knowledge Sharing and Learning).

PROJECT GOAL:

To increase Bhutan's access to climate finance by improving the availability and access to robust and credible climate information and data through stakeholder coordination, and technical capacity building to meet its NDC and NAP commitments and needs.

PROJECT OUTCOME:

1. Country NDAs or focal points and the network/ systems that enable them to fulfill their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective.
2. Direct access applicants and accredited entities (DAEs) have established capacity to meet and maintain the GCF's accreditation standards; and accredited DAEs have the capacity to develop a pipeline of projects and effectively implement GCF-funded activities.
3. Relevant country stakeholders (which may include executing entities, Civil Society Organizations and private sector) have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programming, and implementation of GCF funded activities.

4.GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment.

5.Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDAs, DAEs, and delivery partners with the GCF.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024						
Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	NDA or FP staff trained in areas relevant to the GCF objectives of the GCF and oversight of GCF activities NDA operational manual developed and validated	65,900.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	NDA
2	Direct Access Applicants supported with training, capacity development, or improved systems to close gaps	24,737.50	Jan	Dec	RSPN	DAE
3	Studies, modelling efforts and other research conducted/developed	314,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-

Project Title	vii. Strengthening Capacity to Enhance Knowledge and Skills in Conservation
Project Period	January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026
Approved Grant	USD 450,000.00
Donor	Foundation Hans Wilsdorf, Switzerland

PROJECT SUMMARY:

This project support the implementation of RSPN's Strategic Plan (2021-2025). The Strategic Plan provides the future strategic direction and sets up a clear course of action in achieving the RSPN's goals and objectives. The project will mainly help to build the capacity needs of the RSPN staffs to enhance their knowledge and leadership skills in conservation, promoting innovative technologies, proactive towards environment issues, efficient and effective in delivering programs. This will ultimately lead to creating a highly motivated and engaged workforce. The staff at all levels in the organization will be encouraged through training and development, communications and progressive compensation packages and other perks to embrace the mission, vision and core values.

PROJECT GOAL:

To enhance capacity in conservation and innovative technologies.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES :

- 1.Strengthen knowledge and leadership skills in conservation.
- 2.To create highly motivated and engaged workforce.

Project Implementation Plan for the calendar year 2024						
Sl. No	Activities	Budget (USD)	Start Date	End Date	Lead	Implementing Partner
1	Strengthen Regional and global network, coordination, collaboration on conservation/ national coordination meeting with stakeholders	14,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
2	Develop Information, education and communication (IEC) materials and video documentation/Capacity building on social media management, Digital media and storytelling	6000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
3	Conduct awareness, advocacy and education programs at all levels	62,660.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
4	Conduct/participate in the National/ International Conference/ trainings on Conservation/Climate change/CBD- COP events and Training on Strategic Planning and Leadership Management	21,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
5	Build capacity on climate smart agriculture/water/SLM, M&E, Eco-tourism/integrated Livelihood program Provide platform to inspire and engage youths/interns/volunteers in conservation and stewardship	11,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
6	Establish/Renew MoU and Agreement with relevant ministries and agencies both at International and national level	1000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
7	Develop HR plan and build HR capacity through mentoring and training	9000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
8	Provide learning platform to stay updated on governance practices, and emerging trends (Climate Governance) for board members and management	21,000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-
9	Develop fundraising guideline	5000.00	Jan	Dec	RSPN	-



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Overview of Mangdechhu basin (one of the habitats of the White-bellied Heron), Trongsa/Sangay Dema, RSPN