

Report of 2012 – Nepal Visit and Program of

- **Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich and his team:**
- Jose Maria Rodriguez Linde (Veterinarian & Director of Desert Zoo & Thematic Parc at Tabernas/S-Spain)
- Prof. Dr. Christian de la Fe, Veterinary at Dept animal sciences, University of Murcia/Spain

Main Objectives:

- a. To start the Turtle Conservation Project at SUMMEF (Sukhami Martyr's Memorial Foundation) Budhoholi (Bhimsen pokhari) Wetland, Sanischare, Jhapa.
- b. to release four (4) School/Children books of Herpetofauna of Nepal and ten (10) posters to Natural History Museum, Swambhu, (NHM -TU)
- c. to meet & hand over of all documents of ARCO-Nepal's planings for Chitwan National Park, Kashara Education Centre and Turtle conservation projects to DG of DNPWC, at Kathmandu

Program details and Results:

1. April 15, 2012 (Baisakh 3, 2069) Sunday: Arrival at Kathmandu from Madrid. (37 hrs traveling!!)

2. April 16 (Baisakh 4) Monday: Program preparation

3. April 17 (Baisakh 5) Tuesday: Seminar at Natural History Museum with presentation of 4 school books for Nepal at NHM/TU and also presentation of 10 posters to the Herpetological section of Museum with talk program.

Seminar Title: *Turtles in Nepal – Can New School Books and a Conservation Project Contribute in Conservation of Species and Environment? Open discussion and a brief Introduction*







Seminar, Book - Poster Releasing on Herpetology Fauna of Nepal and Training Workshop on Wildlife.

**Seminar on
Turtles in Nepal - can new School Books and a Conservation Project Contribute in Conservation of Species and Environment ?
by Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich**

Organized by
Natural History Museum
Institute of Science & Technology
Tribhuvan University, Nepal

With the support of
University Grand Commission (UGC)
Sanothimi, Bhankapur

Amphibians & Reptiles Conservation Organizations
ARCO, Nepal/German

Date: 17th April, 2012

Program of Seminar cum Book-Poster Release

Date: April 17, 2012, Time: 2:00 PM

Venue: Natural History Museum, Swayambhu, Kathmandu, Nepal

Opening Session: Program I

2:00. Arrival of the Guest at the Museum Hall.

2.10. Welcome by Prof. Dr. Keshab Shrestha, Chief and explaining about the program with the introduction of Prof. Hermann Schleich

Inauguration of the Program by Pouring Water to the Native Plant of Nepal in Clay Pot

2.20. a. Book Release by Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Mukunda Gajurel

Guests of Honor Mr. Henning Hansen, Culture Attaché of Embassy of Germany, Representative from DNPWC, Prof. Dr. Ranjana Gupta, Head CDZ

b. Release of ten big exhibition posters on Herpetology of Nepal by Prof. Dr. Keshab Shrestha and Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich

2.30. Few words by Representative from DNPWC

2.35. Culture Attaché of Embassy of Germany, Mr. Henning Hansen

2.40. Few words by Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich

2.45. Few words by Prof. Dr. Ranjana Gupta, Head CDZ

2.50. Closing of opening ceremony by Dean of Institute of Science and Technology Prof. Dr. Mukunda Gajurel

2.55. Tea

Seminar: Program II (Participants 100)

3.10. **Seminar on Turtle Conservation of Nepal:** Prof. Dr. H. Schleich

4.15. Open floor for discussion

5.00. Vote of thanks and closing by Prof. Dr. Keshab Shrestha, Chief, NHM

5.10. Tea



Introduction by Prof. K. Shrestha, Director Natural History Museum

Natural History Museum of Tribhuvan University is the only place in Nepal which has collections of many of the species of Herpetological fauna of Nepal. With the huge collection of wildlife artefact since its establishment starting from 2500 specimens, now the museum houses more than 50,000 specimens of the entire country making this museum a destination not only for its native people but also for foreign visitors and researchers. Since the very beginning, the museum is involved in activities like collection, preservation, education, publication and research in all areas of natural science including herpetology, a science dedicated to the study of amphibians and reptiles.

Since years Natural History Museum of Kathmandu has attracted not only national researchers but scientists from the world, and several outstanding publications resulted in national and international collaborations. In this relation, Kathmandu Natural History Museum had a close relation with various research institutes and museums in Germany as eg. Munich University and its Zoological State Collection in particular for the Amphibian and Reptiles during last centuries.

In this regard Prof. Hermann Schleich and his team have contributed numerous publications and supported many University students and scientists for research and conservation. He was involved with this museum in several occasions since the last 23 years and besides research he has been lecturing in museum development and realizing training programs with courses on “Applied techniques in Natural Sciences” and “Museum Management”.

Now, more recently Prof. Schleich is supporting in situ conservation in Sukhani wetland, Mai Pokhari Ramsar Site, Chitwan National Park, Bardia National Park and several other places drawing attention on this rare and endangered creatures of our nature which are in many cases even still unknown but having tremendous benefit on the ecosystem, culture and medicine.

Prof. Hermann Schleich on the request of Natural History Museum is providing us a lecture on the recent problem of the conservation issues of amphibian and reptiles in Nepal. On the same eve he is releasing his recent books on the Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal being edited and written in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Kaluram –Khambu- Rai in English and Nepali language and would like to contribute the books to the libraries of Universities and schools here in Nepal.

The titles of the school books as well as for the new exhibition posters at Nat. Hist Museum are:

Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal * Amphibians, * Lizards and Crocodiles, * Snakes, * Turtles

The above books are also co-authored by Prof. Dr. Kalu Ram Rai of Mechi Campus, Bhadrapur, Jhapa, a prominent herpetologist in Nepal having had PhD supervision and training from Munich University by Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich while Dr. Hermann Schleich was also a visiting Professor in Tribhuvan University on several occasions.

Participants: Invited guests, TU and School students, NHM staffs, TU Professors and Head of Departments. NAST/DNPWC/WWF/Trust, Media

5.30 pm Visit of Zoo at Jalawkhel

4. April 18 (Baisakh 6) Wednesday:

Appointment at DNPWC to arrange program for visit to observe Turtle Conservation condition at Kasarah of CNP, Bardiya NP and Kopshi Tappu WR and also to hand over of all documents for planning of Kasarah Education Centre that organized previous projects.



Pre-meeting with the body of SUMMEF (Sukhani Martyrs' Memorial Foundation) at Kathmandu/Anamnagar Union House for discussing of Budoholi Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre in SUMMEF:

Schedule

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|---|--|
| Brief introduction of participants | Hakaraj Rai (Secretary SUMMEF) |
| Welcome and meeting objectives | Dev Raj Ghimire (Chair SUMMEF) |
| Introductory presentation on TRCC | Hakaraj Rai (Secretary SUMMEF) |
| TRCC: Collaboration and Management | Prof.Dr. Hermann Schleich (Chair ARCO-Nepal) |
| Queries and suggestions by participants | |
| Remarks on Queries and suggestions | Prof.Dr. Hermann Schleich (Chair ARCO-Nepal) |
| Vote of Thanks | Dev Raj Ghimire |
| Lunch | |



6. April 20 (Baishakh 8) Friday:

Departure for Bhadrapur by Buddha Air (Airport Time 9:50 AM), Landing at Bhadrapur at 11:40, Dr. Khambu Rai receiving the group
Visit Project Site and Precise Meeting at 1:30 PM, Night Stay at Bhadrapur





forested area for TRCC, Indotestudo range + reptile exhibition



background: area to be dammed for turtle lake, TRCC



Former picnic place for TRCC Info+Education centre



end of shadow line: 4 ponds to be excavated for breeding

7. April 21 (Baishakh 9) Saturday:

Visit of Ramsar Site Mai Pokhari and Hans Pokhari (Ilam Province) for Conservation Status of Himalayan salamander (*Tylototriton*)

-Leave for Maipokhari Visit at 6 AM, Breakfast at Fikkal at 7:30 AM, Reach Maipokhari at 11:30 AM, Lunch at Maipokhari at 1:30 PM
Leave Maipokhari at 2:30 PM, Arrive Ilam (on the way to Jhapa) at 6 PM, Night Stay at Ilam (Green Hotel)



Mai Pokhari



Tylototriton (abandoned) "conservation area"

8. April 22 (Baishakh 10) Sunday:

Leave for Sanichare/Birtamod at 6 AM, Reach Birtamod and have breakfast at 7:30

Program for signing of MOU between SUMMEF and ARCO-Nepal at Sanischare 11 AM to 1:30 PM, Lunch at 2 PM at Birtamod
Press Meeting 3-4.30 PM, Leave for Koshi Tappu : 5 PM, Night stay at Hotel



9. April 23 (Baisakh 11) Monday:

Visiting to KTWR and observation of turtle fauna in Koshi River

-Early morning: departure to Chitwan National Park, Night stay at Kasarah, arrival at 20.30h pm

Stay at Eden Lodge



10. April 24 (Baisakh 12) Tuesday:

NP Wildlife Observation, Chitwan Museum and drive to Kasarah HQ cum Crocodile and Turtle Conservation Centre

15h departure for Kathmandu



11. April 25 (Baisakha 13) Wednesday:

-morning 6.30h departure from Hotel for Tribhuvan International Airport: flight Kathmandu-Delhi-Madrid
arrival at 5.00h, back home in Tabernas



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
between Sukhahi Martyrs Memorial Foundation and ARCO-Nepal
on establishing **Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre**

The MOU for establishing Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre in Martyrs Memorial Park, Sanischare, Jhapa, Nepal has been made between Sukhahi Martyrs' Memorial Foundation (henceforth called the first party) and Amphibian and Reptile Conservation- Nepal (ARCO-Nepal) (henceforth called the second party), both parties agree the following terms & conditions:

Terms & Conditions:

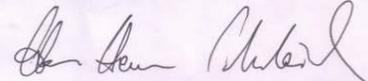
1. Budhoholi TRCC will be established within the area of Martyrs' Memorial Park near the outlet dam, together with a recreation part (responsibility: SUMMEF) and a conservation area (responsibility: ARCO) The designing of TRCC forwarded by expertise will be finalized by ARCO-Nepal.
2. The first party will be responsible for the required legal and administrative formalities for the implementation of the project.
3. Project monitoring and evaluation will be done in collaboration accompanying with concerning government institutions and organizations.
4. This project is agreed for five years and will be effective after signing by both parties. After five years, SUMMEF will be responsible for sustainability and management of the TRCC.
5. The technical and financial support of maximum US\$ 35,000 for TRCC will be done by second party and fulfilment of construction and all necessary management will be done by first party on mutual understanding.
6. The second party will release the fund as per the realization of the project activities stepwise, according to progress and report of the project.
7. The second party will be requested to provide financial and technical support to further develop the projects e.g. Mini-Zoo, Exhibition and Education Centre and the management plan.

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8. A species reintroduction project will be carried out in collaboration with IUCN/WWF and DNPWS by both parties.
9. Any intellectual outputs and media campaign to promote sustainability from this project will be published in the name of the first and second party.
10. This project may be extended if both parties agree to do so after the completion of this period.

Signed by


Mr. Dev Raj Ghimire
Chair
Sukhahi Martyrs Memorial
Foundation, Nepal


Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich
Chair
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation -
Nepal

Date of Signing : 15 April, 2012 Date of Signing : 15 April, 2012

Organization's Seal Organization's Seal



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Press Dissemination on TRCC by ARCO-Nepal and SUMMEF Nepal

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation - Nepal (ARCO-Nepal) and Sukhani Martyrs Memorial Foundation-Nepal have reached an agreement to establish a Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre (TRCC) in the premise of Martyrs Memorial Park, located at Sanischare 7, Jhapa, Nepal. The signatory parties would like to make public the following in this regard.

1. The project is designed under one of the broad components of Martyrs Memorial Park Conservation and Development Master Plan, i.e. biodiversity conservation.
2. The objective of the TRCC is to create sustainable assurance colonies of rare and endangered turtle species of Nepal. Also, the centre will serve as awareness raising venue and research centre.
3. Under this project, two small ponds sized 5x5 metres, three ponds sized 10x5 metres and a big pond sized 30x10 metres will be constructed for breeding and other housing adult turtles. Also a small and shallow lake will be created wherein the turtles will be let free for basking and for visitors' observation. An incubation and dissemination centre will be constructed by the side. There will be sites for turtle observation and worshipping, too.
4. The project period is of five years (2011-2015) and budget is US\$35,000.00 The financial support for the project is committed by ARCO- Nepal.

ARCO-Nepal is a conservation organization founded in Germany and working for conservation of reptiles and amphibians of Nepal since last 15 years.

The project is signed by Mr. Dev Raj Ghimire, Chair of the Sukhani Martyrs Memorial Foundation-Nepal and Prof.Dr.Hermann Schleich, Chair of the ARCO-Nepal. Also present were Prof. Jose-Maria Rodríguez Linde, ARCO-Nepal Representative from Spain and Director of the Desert Park of South Spain, a Veterinarian by profession and Prof. Dr. Christian de la Fe, Dean, International Affairs, University of Murcia, Department of Animal Health, a Veterinarian by profession.

The program was attended Mr. Narendra Raj Sharma, by Chief District Officer, Mr. Juddha B. Gurung, Member Secretary, Nepal Nature Trust for Conservation, Bishnu P. Bhandari, District Forest Officer, Mr. Laxmi P. Bhattarai, District Education Officer, Superintendent of Police Mr. Bijay Pandit, Mr. Rajesh Ghimire, Acting Local Development Officer, Mr. Pitambar Sharma, Chief of Tourism Office, Kakarbhitta, Mr. Radheshyam Mandal, Chief of District Veterinary Office and Mr. Ganesh Pokharel, President of Federation of Nepalese Journalist, Jhapa Chapter.

Prof Hermann Schleich
ARCO-Nepal
April 15, 2012

पत्रकारगणनामापत्रकका लागि सविज्ञान जानकारी

आर्को नेपाल र सुखानी शहीद स्मृति प्रतिष्ठान नेपालबीच अतिरिक्त ७, भूभाषित शहीद स्मृति उद्यान परिसरमा कछुवा उद्धार तथा संरक्षण केन्द्र स्थापना गर्ने परियोजना सम्बन्धित गर्ने विषयमा एक सम्झौतासम्बन्धी भएको छ।

१. यो परियोजना शहीद स्मृति उद्यान संरक्षण तथा विकास परियोजनाको जैविक विविधता संरक्षण गर्ने उद्देश्यसहित सम्बन्धित गर्ने लागिएको हो।
२. कछुवा उद्धार तथा संरक्षण केन्द्रको उद्देश्य नेपालको यस वृत्त र जोखिममा परेका प्रजातिहरूको लागि सुरक्षित बासस्थान उपलब्ध गराउनु हो। यो केन्द्र अनुसन्धान तथा जनचेतना अभिवृद्धि गर्ने स्वतन्त्र रूपमा पनि रहनेछ।
३. यस परियोजनाअन्तर्गत ४ मी. लम्बाइ र ५ मी. चौडाइका २ वटा, १० मी. लम्बाइ र ५ मी. चौडाइको २ वटा र ३० मी. लम्बाइ र १० मी. चौडाइको धुन्डा पोखरी निर्माण गरिनेछन्। यी पोखरीहरू कछुवा प्रजनन र कीडास्यको रूपमा प्रयोग हुनेछन्। यहाँ आगन्तुकहरूका लागि कछुवासम्बन्धी जानकारी केन्द्र, कछुवा अन्तर्गत स्वस्थ र पुनर्स्थापनाको पनि व्यवस्था गरिनेछ।
४. यो परियोजनाको अवधि पाँच वर्ष (२०१२ देखि २०१७ सम्म) को हुनेछ। र, यसका लागि आवश्यक बजेट ३५ हजार अमेरिकी डलर आर्को नेपालले उपलब्ध गराउनेछ।

आर्को नेपाल संरक्षण क्षेत्रमा कार्य गर्ने जर्मनीमा रहेको संस्था हो र यसले विगत १५ वर्षदेखि नेपालमा काम गर्दै आइरहेको छ। यस वृद्धो होली क्षेत्रको जैविक विविधता संरक्षणका लागि बर्तमान संरक्षण समाज भाषाति प्रा.डा. कानुनमा खन्नु गइको नेतृत्वमा २०६२ मा अनुसन्धान गरी कछुवा संरक्षणको सिफारिस गरेको थियो।

यो परियोजनाको आज सुखानी प्रतिष्ठान नेपालका अध्यक्ष श्री देवराज घिमिरे र आर्को नेपालका अध्यक्ष प्रोफेसर डा. हर्मेन रोजेन्डोर्फबीच सम्झौतामा हस्ताक्षर गरिएको छ। यस कार्यक्रममा आर्को नेपालका स्नेह प्रतिनिधि प्रोफेसर हर्से मारिया रोजेन्डोर्फ सिन्डे जो दक्षिण स्पेनस्थित डेन्टो पार्कका निर्देशक तथा पशु चिकित्सक हुनुहुन्छ र प्रोफेसर क्रिस्टोफर डि ला फे, स्पेनको मर्सिया विश्वविद्यालयका पशु स्वास्थ्य विभागका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय मामिलाका डिन हुनुहुन्छ, पनि उपस्थित हुनुहुन्थ्यो।

कार्यक्रमका प्रमुख अतिथि प्रमुख जिल्ला अधिकारी, श्री नरेन्द्रराज शर्मा र अतिथिहरूमा नेपाल प्रकृति संरक्षण कोषका सदस्य सचिव जूद्धाबहादुर गुरु, जिल्ला वन अधिकृत विष्णुप्रसाद भण्डारी, जिल्ला शिक्षा अधिकारी लक्ष्मीप्रसाद भण्डारी, जिल्ला पशु सेवा कार्यालयका प्रमुख राधेश्याम मण्डल, सशस्त्र प्रहरीका एसपी विजय पौडेल, निमित्त स्थानीय विकास अधिकारी राजेश घिमिरे, पर्यटन कार्यालय कार्काभिस्टाका प्रमुख पिताम्बर शर्मा, नेपाल पत्रकार महासंघ भाषाका सभापति गणेश पोखरेल हुनुहुन्थ्यो।

देवराज घिमिरे
सुखानी शहीद स्मृति प्रतिष्ठान
२०६९ वैशाख १०
वितामोड