# **Budoholi TRCC**

# (Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre) run by

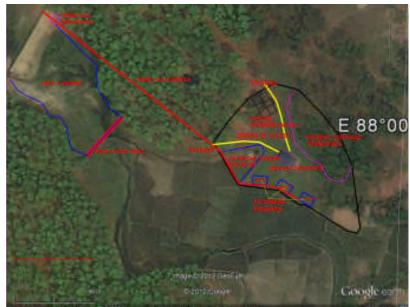
# ARCO-NEPAL & SUMMEF



## **Geographical Situation**

Sanichare/Jhapa district SE-Nepal





Now is the time WE NEED YOU!! We survive on donations averaging about € 10.- If everyone reading this right now gave €3 or a bit more, our fundraiser would be filled within an hour or so and indigenous people have jobs, food and turtles survival!!

© 2012 Google

Image © 2012 GeoEye

Sichthone 150 m

Sichthone 1.31 km 

Sichthone 1.31 km

**TRCC** area comprises some part of wetland, artificial lakes, ponds, grassland, small forest, garden and has a perimeter of approx. 410 mtrs.



aufnahmedatum: 3/24/2010 - 🐠

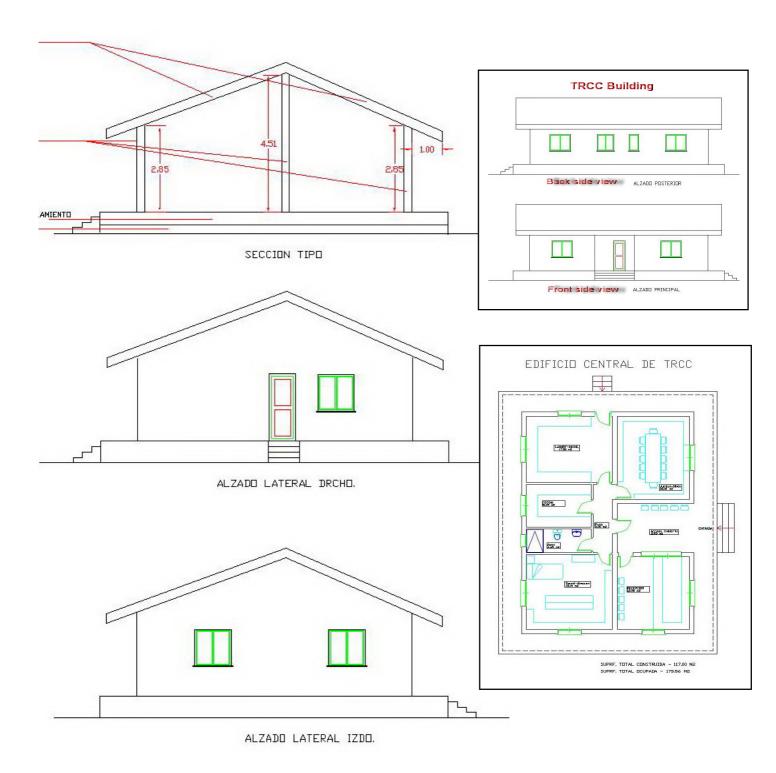






Shown is the whole area of TRCC to be fenced. The troughs are the basis for the fencing poles and bricklayers

## Central building as operation and information unit with shop, visitor reception, lab, office, library, ticket counter



• The main construction of the TRCC covers a surface of 175 m² and the building itself 117 m². It has a main entrance with open reception and a rear entrance for direct reach of the lab facilities. Others are guest room incl. library, office + reception, bath room and lab+vet room. A meeting room shall provide facilities for small conferences and official receptions. The max. height is 4.5 m and the 1 m extending for-roof gives protection during monsoon rain and sunshine. The whole complex shall be constructed above a gravel filled underlaying platform.

#### **Education Centre**

- Exhibition
- Didactical Nature Walk
- Mobile Education Unit







The physical units of the education centre shall be realized by

- ☐ Conversion of the existing Picnic shelter into an Education Centre
- ☐ Didactical open air course with explicative panels at the tortoises' reserve
- ☐ "Travelling suitcase" with information material to be brought to schools in Terai

Thirteen panels of 100 x 100 cm will fit inside the first hall and four more in the outer (photo to the left). Also another thirteen will be mounted outside – all of them telling the Natural History of turtles of Nepal also its significance in paramedicine, religion and superstition

#### ARCO-Nepal reg.soc

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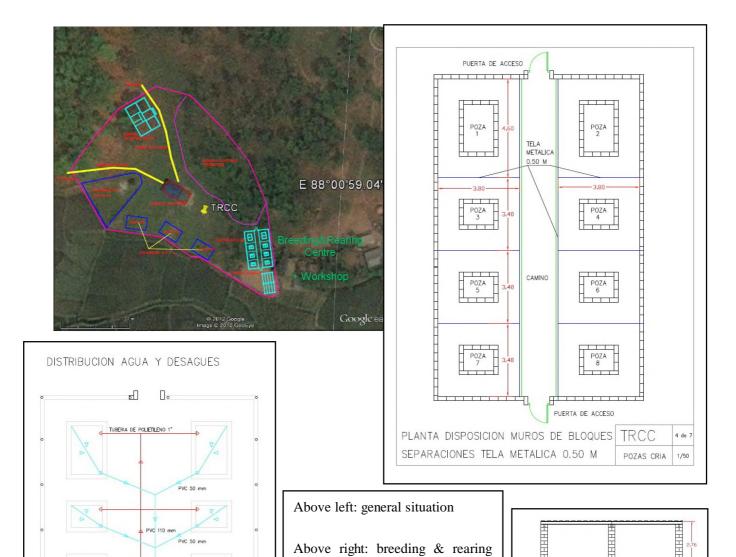
Partner of TSA

Turtle Survival Alliance

#### **Breeding and Rearing Centre**

Six smaller (150  $\times$  150 cm) + two bigger (250 x 150 cm) ponds fenced and covered completely by chicken mesh wire against predators and for supporting shading parts; all with earth-sandy parts for basking and egg laying

The existing rearing and breeding area at Chitwan National Park turned out to be useful for that purpose and we try to take over that idea by constructing 6 small ponds of 100 x 150 cm and four of 200 x 200 cm. A general depth of 60 cm shall allow proper catching and handling of specimens and of course an individually controllable in- and outflow for proper and easy filling with fresh water and emptying for cleaning and disinfection are the basic conditions. The whole area must be fenced with strong chicken mesh wire against predators being dug into the ground till 30 cm and also the roof and lateral sides have to receive the same protection and natural grasses for giving shade partially. Each pool must be fenced individually and have a simple but proper door together with a small pathway or service corridor appropriate for reaching both sides of the tanks. We do have the idea, concept and the place – but frankly speaking – we need also some help from your side – with some donations to make this rearing and breeding area a reality!!!!!!!!



unit with 6 ponds of 150x150 cm

ALZADO E

Below left: water in- and outlet

Below right: simple workshop

and 2 of 150 x 250 cm

construction with tin roof

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## **Husbandry facilities**

All enclosures are fenced with 80 cm high anti escape fencing and surrounded by visitor ways Quarantine: one bigger pond and one terrestrial area for incoming rescued specimens

#### Aquatic/palustrine species

**One big lake** (<. 1000 sqm) and about 80 - 100 cm deep receives fresh water from the main lake by overflow steps. The dam length of the main lake is 62.5 and the outflow da 35 m. This lake shall serve as a natural habitat to receive



A second lake, smaller and triangular shaped is measuring approx. 260 sqm and 74 m circumferance......



...... it will be established with eight different sized aquatic compartments, each being separated by strong fence mesh wire to accommodate various specimens of softshell turtles (*Chitra*, *Nilssonia*) or other big sized species as *Hardella* or *Batagur* 

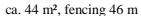




Remaining are 3 concrete ponds each of approx.. 40 sqm and to max 80 cm depth for various breeding and maintenance purposes.

If appropriate all but the smooth plastered quarantine pond shall receive tree trunks as hiding and basking places as well as small peninsular structures for palustrine plants

Ca. 60 m², fencing 56 m



quarantine pond  $52 \text{ m}^2$ , fencing 56 m











Inlet (right; 210m)) and outlet tube with valves and supporting columns

The filling water comes from the main lake The outlet goes to paddy fields

#### Tortoises or terrestrial species

A rather big forested area of approx. 105 sqm shall receive some more bushes and shrubs for shade and hiding also a cemented flat dish for drinking water and if necessary a small swampy part, altogether serving to home *Indotestudo*, *Melanochelys tricarinata* and - in case the species will be found still in wilderness with surviving individuals - *Cyclemys*, being propably the most endangered species for Nepal



#### • Volunteers' accommodation

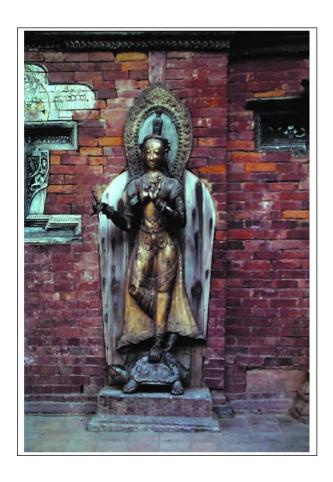


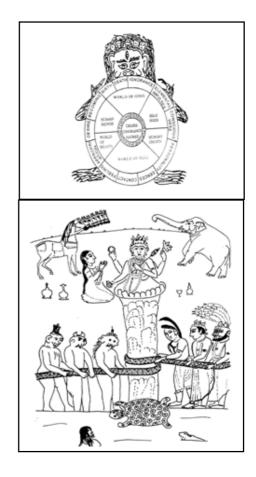


A simple styled native construction adapted to local living way shall give accommodation to volunteers for stays up to max. three months including twice food (Nepali Khanna, mineral water & tea) daily against affordable payment. For more details request information at arco.nepal@gmail.com

#### Worshipping place

A worshipping place shall accept visitors to pledge to their Hindu religion by offering food, material and spiritual items and be used also for donations of live turtles.





#### **Turtles in Hindu Mythology**

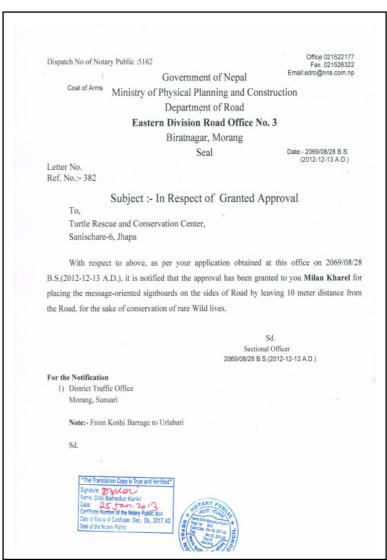
In Hindu Mythology it is believed that "Earth is supported on the back of Turtle". There are ten directions like East, West, North, and South as per Vaastu Shastra. But there is one more 11th direction and very rarely someone travels in that direction. This 11th direction is inwards, towards our own Source. There are few people who have traveled on the inner journey like Buddha, Jesus, Mahavira, Krishna, Guru Nanak, Osho, Mohammed, Moses etc. Those who have traveled inwards and found the bliss have always shared their Bliss and wisdom with us. Their wisdom has always directed the humanity on right path and saved it from disaster. We pray to God or we go to Saints only when we are in trouble and they always Guide us and protect us. Symbolically Sages are being compared with the Turtle and it is being conveyed that because of sages, still there is truth alive in this world. The churning of the Ocean of Milk was an elaborate process. Mount Mandaranchal (or Mount Meru) - it's mythological the very same) was used as the dasher (churning tool), and Vasuki, the king of serpents, became the churning rope. The gods held the tail of the snake, while the demons (Asuras) held its head, and they pulled on it alternately causing the mountain to rotate, which in turn churned the ocean. However, once the mountain was placed on the ocean, it began to sink. Vishnu in his second incarnation, in the form of a turtle Kurma, came to their rescue and supported the mountain on his back.

We will discuss to offer a small part of land at the TRCC/SUMMEF park to religious Hindu and Buddhist people for creating a worshipping area.

#### **Turtle Road signs**

#### Permit from Nepali Ministry Department of roads had been given in 2013 to mount several metal sign boards





These two, by ARCO-Nepal designed road signs shall be mounted on critical areas for turtle trafficking, uncontrolled fishery, national parks and wildlife reserves as well as at the BudoHoli TRCC





Left: Fishermen selling turtles and fish at Koshi barriage.

Right: A dead Lissemys floating with debris, probably killed by swallowed hook

## **The ARCO-Nepal Conservation Concept**

#### • Establishing a scientific background knowledge

Since the end of the eighties more than 2.500 pages scientific research and investigations have been edited and/or published by ARCO-Nepal only on the amphibians and reptiles of Nepal

#### Education to public and at early school level

Exhibitions, seminars, public talks have been presented in various countries and institutions and museum presentations, posters, flyers and teaching books have been distributed free to schools far over Nepal and are available now free as download at <a href="https://www.arco-nepal.de">www.arco-nepal.de</a>

#### Law enforcement as for all other CITES regulated species with actions against poachers

Again since the eighties ARCO-Nepal created awareness to the local authorities about the urgent need for turtle conservation programs,

The most enjoyable situation had been found on the markets in Kathmandu where no more tortoises are sold as tourist masks and they had been replaced by plastic curiosities.

#### • Turtle Conservation Centres for assurance colonies, training and education

ARCO-Nepal did the planning for the CNP-Kasarah Turtle Breeding area, For Bardia NP, Koshi Tapu WR and is realizing as joint venture program with SUMMEF the first NGO Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre for the country.

# Acknowledgements for donations received in 2013 in alphabetical order

British Chelonian Group
Herpetofauna Foundation, NL
W. Kaestle
NBSV Nederland
H.M. Pichler
Van Rossem
Rutherford, Bristol
Studbook Foundation, Klaaswaal
Turtle Survival Alliance Europe

# Yes! I would like to be a collaborating sponsor for the Construction and/or

#### Maintenance of the BudoHoli Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre and

# for the Conservation and Biology of endangered Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises

### in SE-Nepal.

**		•	ms and ponds! They are finalized!!				
Phone:							
Please indicate whom we should acknowledge as the sponsor ( <u>please submit a logo for corporate or non-profit sponsorships</u> ):							
<b>Construction of centre building</b> / or part of it:		I would like to spon	nsor: 15.000				
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Construction of Breeding & rearing unit: Construction of outer security fencing: Construction of Anti-escape fencing: Construction of Tortoise area: Turtle traffic sign boards:		I would like to spon	nsor: 4.800				
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Your donation may be able to be claimed as a tax deduction!!

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Just think about!: Only two memberships are needed for fencing one of the new turtle enclosures!!