

ECOTOURISM & CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SIKKIM



ANNUAL REPORT
2004 - 05

Our MANDATE:

- To develop and promote Sikkim as an Ecotourism destination and to see that it finds its rightful place in the National and International Ecotourism map.
- To ensure that Ecotourism development has positive and sustainable linkages and that it addresses the developmental needs of marginalised mountain communities.
- To build awareness and capacity of the people of Sikkim and to keep them well informed about their natural capital and wealth which is in the form of increasingly depleting biodiversity reserves. To be able to deliver best practices from all around the world so that local people are able to do more to save these scarce resources.
- To promote research in the areas of conservation, environmental impact of developmental projects, Ecotourism and sustainable development. Research would be undertaken with a view to help in the formulation of practice policies for implementation at the State and National Levels.
- To work toward finding National and International partners who would work with us to achieve our goals.
- To work outside Sikkim, mainly in the immediate areas of Darjeeling District, North East of India, Bhutan and Nepal and to share experiences so that the whole region can focus on Ecotourism as a way forward in enhancing the quality of lives of the local people.

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Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim
Annual General Meeting
Gangtok 12th November 2005

Chairman's Message

Dear members,

Another year has whizzed by! And here we are now at our 5th AGM. The past year, like all previous years, has been a whirl wind of a ride with so much happening and so little time to sit back and reflect. In this momentary lull let us seize the opportunity to objectively assess our activities and the direction we are heading. In this I urge all our members to participate fully.

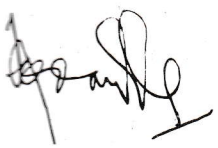
ECOSS has undertaken a number of new projects in the past year - in particular the Small Grants Scheme funded by the Australian Aid for International Development (AusAID) and Ecowatch funded by United States Asia Environmental Partnership Program (USAEP) and AusAID. These are intensive time bound projects demanding a huge amount of ECOSS's time and capabilities.

The Small Grants Scheme is providing ECOSS valuable insights into environmental sanitation issues confronting our urban centers and working with communities throughout the Greater Gangtok Area. The ECOWATCH project is providing ECOSS the opportunity to work with teachers and students in a number of schools in raising the level of debate and awareness on environmental issues. ECOSS has also taken on board close to a dozen young graduates and training them to work on these projects. To see them blossom into confident, motivated and capable people has been most gratifying.

ECOSS continues to work in its core areas of promoting and developing ecotourism in the state. The UNESCO funded program of strengthening homestays and capacity building is being pursued. However we now need to redouble our efforts in our core areas as we progressively wind down projects not directly related to ecotourism.

Today we hear more and more of Sikkim being an "Ultimate Eco Tourism" destination. I have no doubts that ECOSS's work over the years has contributed in bringing the idea of ecotourism to the fore in the minds of the people. But without a correct understanding of what ecotourism is all about it could remain just a buzz word - worse it could shut the window of opportunity in truly developing Sikkim as an Ecotourism Destination. The challenge ahead for ECOSS is huge indeed.

With these thoughts I commend the audited Accounts together with the Annual Report to you to be discussed and then adopted.



Loday Chungyalpa
Chairman
ECOSS



Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim
Annual General Meeting
Gangtok 12th November 2005

Executive Secretary's Report

Dear members,

It gives me great pleasure to bring to you the Annual Report for 2004-2005. This year's annual report edition has been delayed due to the several projects that were undertaken which kept us on our toes.

The year 2004 -2005 was eventful with many new challenges and opportunities for ECOSS. One of the greatest achievement of ECOSS for this year was the opportunity to take in fresh local graduate boys and girls and provide them a platform to hone their skills in project management and implementation. . It was an uphill task to guide and mentor them meanwhile accomplish and show results within a time bound project. It was an appropriate opportunity to demonstrate that local initiatives with proper leader ship and guidance can bring about changes in our society and that local institutions are capable to deliver what many think is impossible.

One of the significant ventures was stepping our foot into the water and sanitation arena, a project funded by the Australian Aid for International Development. It gave us a better understanding of the water and sanitation issues in our urban mountain communities and also a platform to show case the way ECOSS works in partnership and collaboration with communities and different agencies.

The ECOWATCH program supported by the United State Asia Environmental Partnership US AEP gave us an opportunity to work very closely with six identified schools. This project was very dear as it brought us to reality the state of environmental education in the state and how a little effort went on to make a big difference and excited teachers and students alike. The program was able to develop a very helpful resource manual "Explore our World" for teachers to assist them is delivering environmental education. This is available for all teachers of Sikkim and is developed in the local context for better understanding.

To underscore the core mandate of ECOSS, conservation and ecotourism related activities were organized and facilitated widely in the region. One important market linkage workshop was organized at Pastenga for project partners, ecotourism practitioners and travel operators. The workshop brought many perspectives into place. It gave an opportunity for the providers and suppliers to sit together and discuss issues related with promoting responsible tourism practices that would sustain the resources and well being of the local people. To further strengthen these initiatives we were fortunate to receive funding through UNESCO to continue our support to two additional sites of Kewzing and Pastenga for strengthening the Himalayan Homestay network.

Through our network we were able to facilitate many workshops and meetings and provide consultancy services in and outside the region as far as Cambodia. The linkage and association with the SASEC tourism initiative in the region funded by Asian Development Bank has been fruitful. ECOSS could facilitate stakeholders in the region and participate in the tourism project planning phase that was held in Thimphu Bhutan. Similarly the collaborative work with ICIMOD and The Mountain Institute in the trans-boundary conservation program has been significant to look at promoting alternative livelihoods with special focus on ecotourism. Under this program several capacity building programs were undertaken and training provided to field level NGOs on community based participatory approaches.

The journey till here has been worthwhile and still ahead many accomplishments to achieve. Without our donors and your active support and patronage, we would not have been able to come this far. We would like to thank each and everyone who has been associated in whatever manner to achieve the goals and objects of ECOSS.

Lastly we appreciate the support provided through our members who are always in contact with us. ECOSS a home grown NGO has had such wonderful support from its well wishers and we hope that this trend continues. Even our overseas members keep in regular touch with us and provide meaningful inputs whenever required.

We wish everybody good luck and hope everybody enjoys reading the project activities and achievements of ECOSS and continue to keep in touch with a lively organization as ours.



Renzino Lepcha
Executive Secretary

ECOSS Executive Member Profile



Mr. Loday Chungyalpa (Chairman)
MBA

Background in Management and Planning. Work experience in development of village tourism, rural based micro enterprises and experience in management of educational institutions.



Dr. J. P. Tamang (Vice Chairman)
(Phd.)

Reader at the Department of Botany, Sikkim Government College. Master's and doctorate degree from North Bengal University. Post-doctoral research at the National Food Research Institute, Tsukuba, Japan. Recipient of National Bio-science Award for Career Development 2004 - 2005.



Mr. P.D. Rai (Executive Member)
B. Tech (IIT Kanpur)
PGDM (IIMA) Eisenhower Fellow.

On the CII - as member of the Tourism Committee for North East. Background in Information & Communications Technology and Management. Has worked extensively in the formulation of Policy Initiatives and implementation of the same.



Mr. K.N. Bhutia (Executive Member)
B. Tech Mining Engineering(BHU)

Post Graduate Diploma Mining Engineering (Mc Gill University, Montreal Canada) Specialization in Renewal Energy Sources. Recepient of State Award 1990. Instrumental in preparation of Sikkim Tourism Mater Plan.



Mr. R. P. Gurung (Treasurer)
B.Com (Hons) CA Inter.

Background in Accounts/ Management with interest in Food Processing and community centered innovative programs. Presently managing a Sikkim based computer sales and promotion company.



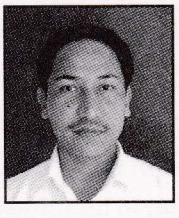
Mr. Bejoy Gurung (Executive Member)
M. Sc. Forestry

Background in forestry and specialization in medicinal plants and other non-timber forest resources of the Sikkim Himalaya. Keen interests and focus on the Acers (Maples) and Zingibers of Sikkim. Authored a book on medicinal plants of Sikkim



Ms. Sarikah Atreya (Executive Member)
B.A.(Hons)

Writer, Journalist and activist on himalayan issues.



Mr. S.K. Pradhan (Executive Member)
B.Com

Has experience in travel trade for more then 10 years and is the Managing Director of Siniolchu International (P) Ltd. Founder member of TAAS and Legship Tourism Development Cooperation Society in Legship, West Sikkim.

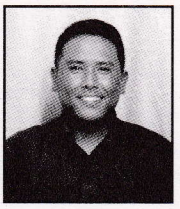


Mr. Renzino Lepcha (Executive Secretary)
M. Sc. Mphil

Background in environmental sciences and tourism with specialization in training on Community Based Tourism Planning and training.. Presently managing the activities and programs of ECOSS.

ECOSS Staff profile

Mr. Renzino Lepcha *(Executive Secretary)*



A Post Graduate and M.Phil in Environmental Sciences with a wide experience of tourism operations and management in the early nineties. Worked in an international conservation and community development organization and gained wide experience in the field of ecotourism implementation, management and development for 6 years. Resource person and trainer for international and national ecotourism planning training programs in India, Nepal, Central and South East Asian countries.

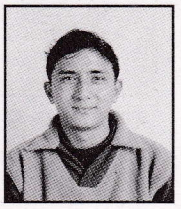
Presently managing ECOSS programs and activities.



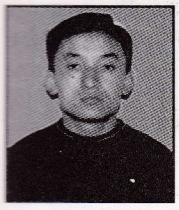
Ms. Bidhya Pradhan (Office *Secretary)*

Worked in an international development organization for 6 years in the capacity of Project Assistant. Experience in office management, maintaining the book of accounts, general office administrative support, maintaining contacts and networking locally among the members and stakeholders of ecotourism in Sikkim.

Mr. Peter Lepcha *(Program Assistant)*



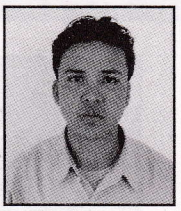
Experience in the tourism industry for 4 years in general office management and field based operations. Presently involved in projects and field based programs of ECOSS. Presently looking after the publication and publicity affairs of ECOSS and providing support for field based activities and programs. Currently coordinating the Ecowatch Program with the six identified schools and related stakeholders.



Mr. Mani Kr. Subba *(Office Assistant)*

A responsible and dedicated staff responsible for maintaining office premises, taking care of office equipments and assets, providing all round support for ECOSS programs and activities.

Mr. Adrian Pakhrin (*Project Manager)*



Experience of tourism in the private sector and actively involved in sustainable tourism network for the past four years. Presently managing the Himalayan Homestay program funded under UNESCO.

Community Small Grants Scheme



Smriti B. Gurung (M.A.)
Project Supervisor



Kuldeep Rai (Msc.)
Project Supervisor

COMMUNITY SOCIAL MANAGERS



Pema L. Bhutia
B.A



Dawa S. Lepcha
B.A, B.Ed



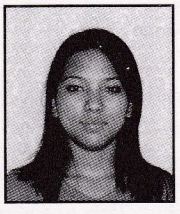
Poonam Gazmer
B.A



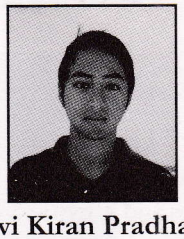
Christina Rai
B.A (Eng. Hons)



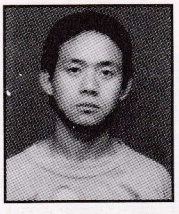
Suman L. Pradhan
B.Com (Hons)



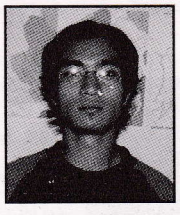
Ranjeeta Tamang
B.A



Ravi Kiran Pradhan
B.A. Tourism

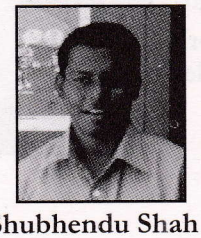


Deependra Rai
B.A.

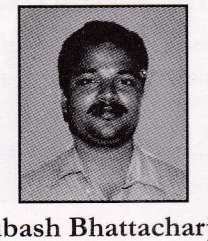


Milan Rai
B.A (Geog. Hons)

PROJECT ENGINEERS



Shubhendu Shah



Subash Bhattacharjee



Manizil Darnal



Rubai Rej

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2004 - 2005

Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR)
Trans Boundary Conservation Community Planning and Action.

Introduction

Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR) Trans Boundary Conservation Project was initiated by The Mountain Institute (TMI) in partnership with Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim and Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC)



The project site was the villages around the Khangchendzonga National Park which included Uttarey Sopakaha, Ribdi Bhareng, Yuksam, Labdang in West Sikkim and Dzongu in North Sikkim.



The main objectives of the program were Conservation of KBR, creating opportunities for alternative livelihoods and in the long term seeking to enhance trans boundary co-operation. The general activities that were planned alongwith communities included:

1. Community Based Tourism
2. Integrated Community Nursery
3. Strengthening of Dairy Farming
4. Medicinal Plants Cultivation
5. Strengthening of local Institutions and organizations
6. Empowering women
7. Training of Ecotourism Service Providers.



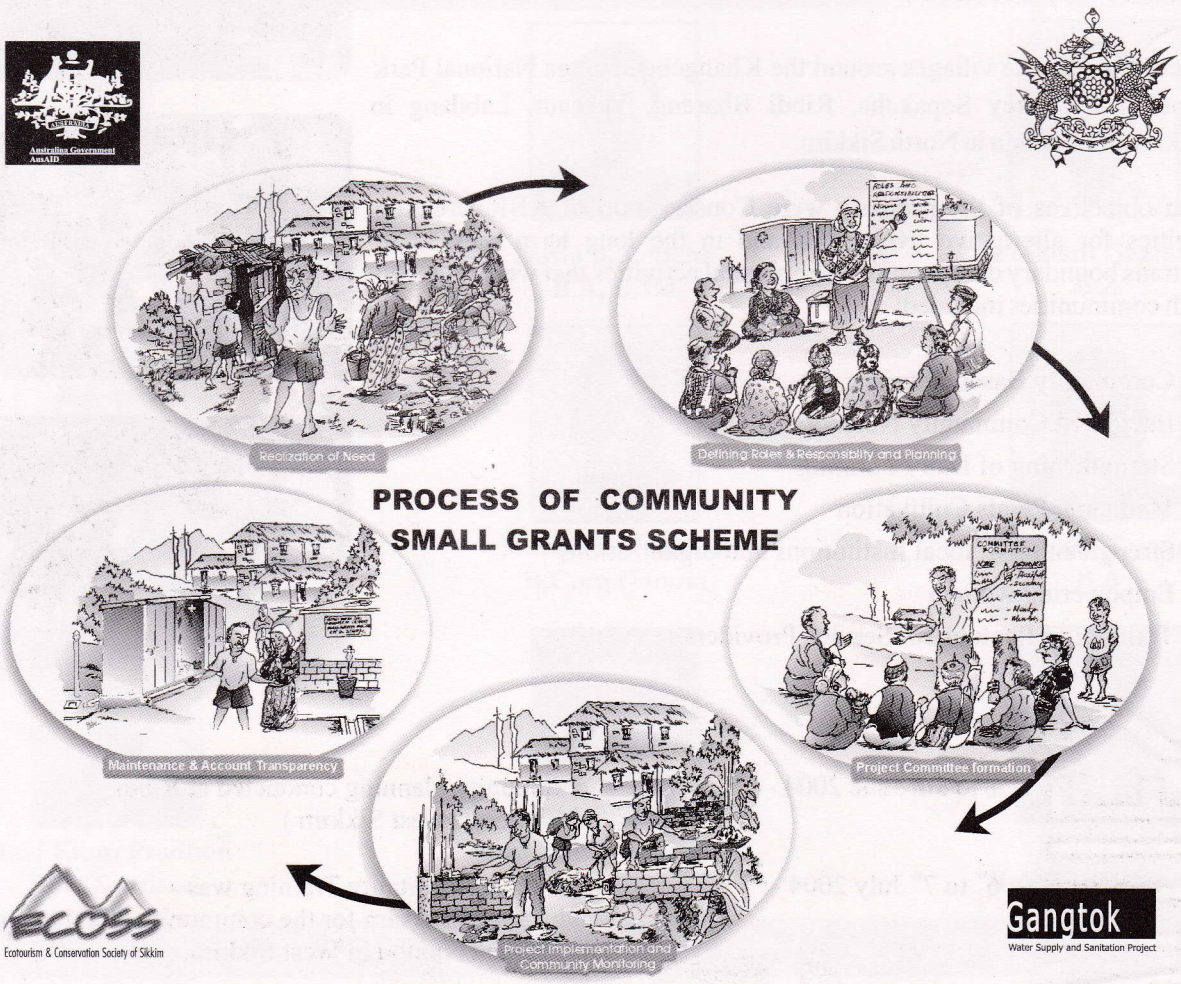
ACTIVITIES

1 to 5th June 2004 -	A community planning conducted at Ribdi and Bhareng (West Sikkim)
6th to 7th July 2004 -	Homestays Hospitality Training was conducted in Yuksam for the community members of Yuksam and Nambu in West Sikkim.
17th to 18th July 2004-	Homestays Hospitality Training was conducted at Ribdi for the community of Ribdi/ Bhareng and Sopakha in West Sikkim.
18th to 22nd August 2004-	Institutional Strengthening Training of Community based Organizations (CBOs) was conducted at Gyalshing.

COMMUNITY SMALL GRANTS SCHEME PROGRAM

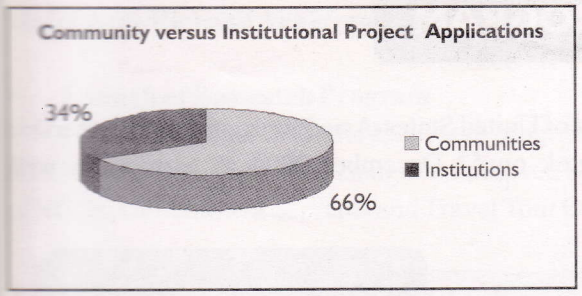
The Community Small Grants Scheme a Project funded under the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) Assistance Program that is being implemented by Gangtok Water Supply and Sanitation Project (GWSSP) in collaboration with ECOSS, local communities and the Government of Sikkim. The aim of the project is to improve water supply, sanitation and solid waste services to the people of Greater Gangtok.

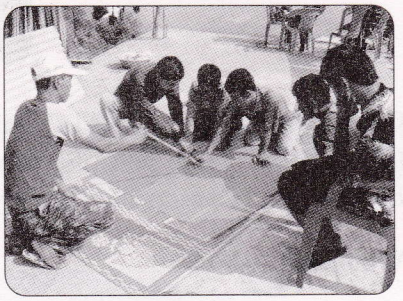
In the process the project aimed to build the capacity of participating CBOs to carry out their own projects, including the preparing of plans, managing funds and contractors, monitoring the implementation and evaluating effectiveness of the interventions.



A project concept once developed was presented to the Small Grants Committee for screening. The committee approved projects on the basis of the guidelines that were set for the selection of projects for implementation.

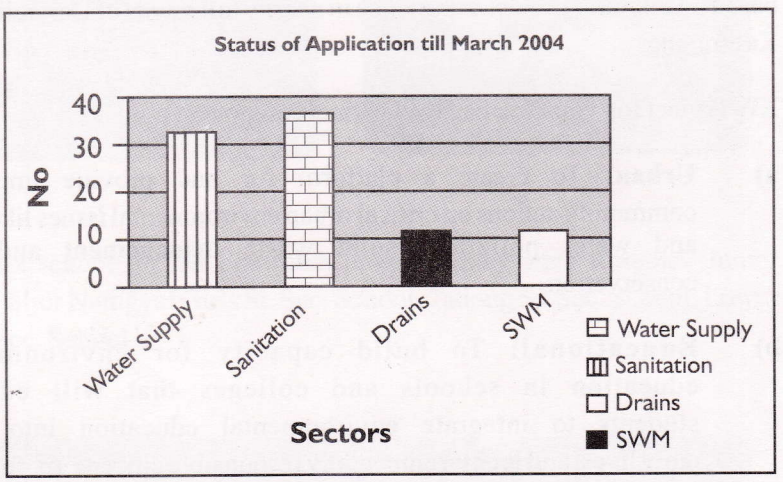
Till March 2005 end the program was midway and till then a total of 92 expressions of interest were received from the communities of greater Gangtok. With the help of GIS mapping the sites of these projects were mapped out which provided spatial references for better management of the program. Out of the 92 applications 61 applications were from communities while the remaining 31 from institutions and organizations.





Community Participatory Planning

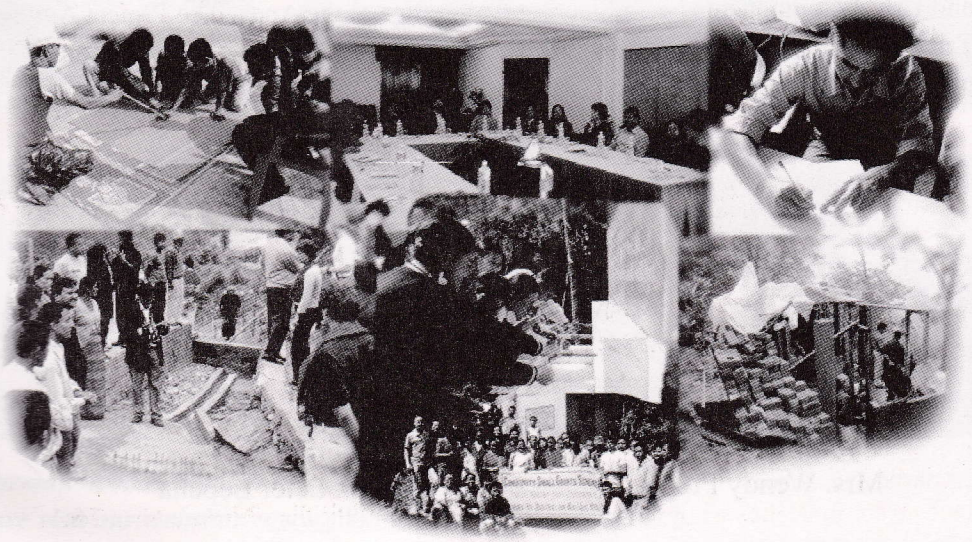
Out of the total applications the highest were for sanitation related projects followed by water supply and others.



Projects which have been committed and approved for funding and implementation include five water supply projects and two sanitation projects in Gangtok. Two of the sanitation projects are being implemented in government schools while the remaining water supply projects are being implemented in communities and in a social centre.

The total allocation for small grants scheme project through AusAID is Rs 45 lakhs. More projects need to be generated and larger vulnerable population within greater Gangtok are being targeted to benefit from this innovative program.

A total of 10 staff have been engaged full time for this program with even volunteers working to make this all important urban environment project a success. Several training and workshops through GWSSP including in house training programs were conducted for staff to equip them with the tools and skills required to undertake this important community water and sanitation project.



ECOWATCH PROGRAM

Community based ECOWATCH GROUP for Gangtok, a project of United States-Asia Environmental Partnership (US-AEP) Program and of AusAID was launched in Gangtok on 5th December 2004 in partnership with Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim.

What is Ecowatch?



US-AEP and AusAID funded GWSSP intended to support a community based environmental initiative named "ECO WATCH" in Gangtok. This is based on a similar project experience in nearby hill towns of Darjeeling and Kalimpong.

EW Project for Gangtok had two distinct components:

a) **Urban:** To create a platform for and provide impetus to community actions on critical urban environmental issues like air and water pollution, solid waste management and energy conservation.

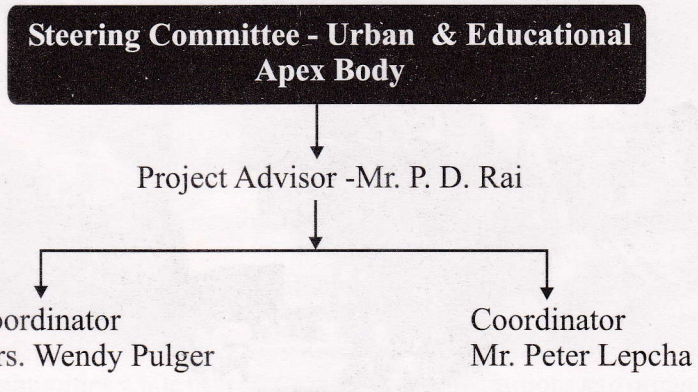


b) **Educational:** To build capacity for environmental education in schools and colleges that will educate students to integrate environmental education into their daily lives, and is environmentally responsible citizens of future.

Management Structure:

The management structure for both the Urban and Educational components of the Eco- Watch Program was similar. USAEP / AusAID worked with ECOSS in catalyzing the formation and functioning of stakeholder groups in Gangtok. ECOSS headquater was the Secretariat for the project for coordinating and organizing the programs.

The Education and Urban Components had a Steering Committee at the Apex. The Project Advisor had overall responsibility of managing and coordinating the project supported by a Project Coordinator for the Urban and Education Component respectively.



Major Activities and Achievements.:

- **Launch of Ecowatch Program**

On 5th December 2004 the Ecowatch program was launched by the Hon'ble Advisor to the Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri B.B. Groong in Gangtok. Followed by a half-day workshop with the various stakeholders comprising of NGOs, Government Servants and Travel Tour Operators of Sikkim.

URBAN

Activities

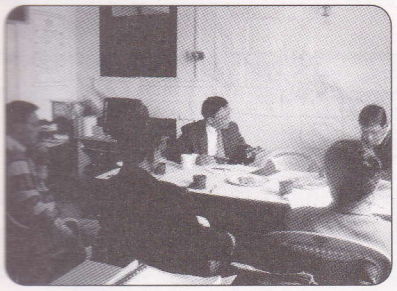
1. 6th December 2004 - Workshop on Solid Waste Management conducted by Mr. P.U. Asnani.
2. Steering Committee Formation for EW-Urban.
3. Community Consultation on Solid Waste Management in different wards.
4. Steering Committee meetings



Activities under Ecowatch - Education

Received Expression of Interests (EoIs) from six school for the Ecowatch program, they were Rongnek Junior High School, Modern Secondary School, Paljor Namgyal Girls Sr. Sec. School, Tadong Sr. Sec. School, Lower Syari Secondary School and Ranipool Sr. Sec. School.





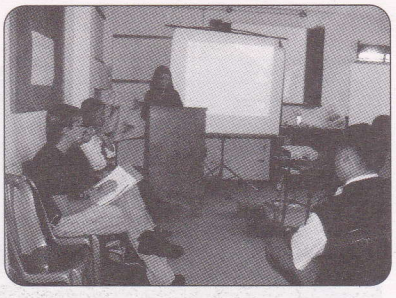
EDUCATION

Activities

1. Formation of Steering Committee Members - Education.
2. Formation of Ecowatch group in six schools.
3. Introduction of Ecowatch program in schools
4. Development of "Explore Your World! A Teacher's Guide to Environment Education"
5. Interaction with Head of the school, teachers and students.
6. Introduction of Environmental games in schools.







For more information on Ecowatch program please visit our website: www.sikkiminfo.net/ecoss/ecowatch

UNESCO PROJECT "STRENGTHENING OF HIMALAYAN HOMESTAYS"

Introduction

Under the UNESCO funded Cultural and Ecotourism in Mountain Regions of Central and South Asia Program a project on "Strengthening Himalayan Homestays" was undertaken by ECOSS in the two sites of Yuksam and Dzongu. The program focused on developing and promoting homestay and other tourism related enterprises in the two sites. The initiative was also to look at providing alternative livelihoods and alleviating poverty for disadvantaged people, while developing local capacities to manage tourism and homestay related activities.

The objectives of the program were to:



1. Develop and promote local homestay at the sites as an alternative opportunity for economic upliftment of the disadvantaged tourism stakeholders groups.
2. Build capacity of ecotourism service providers with emphasis on women and educated-unemployed youth to enable them to adopt environmental friendly responsible tourism practices that ensure sustainability of the tourism product in the long term.
3. Marketing of the existing tourist sites to the outside world through websites and brochures.

Project Sites:

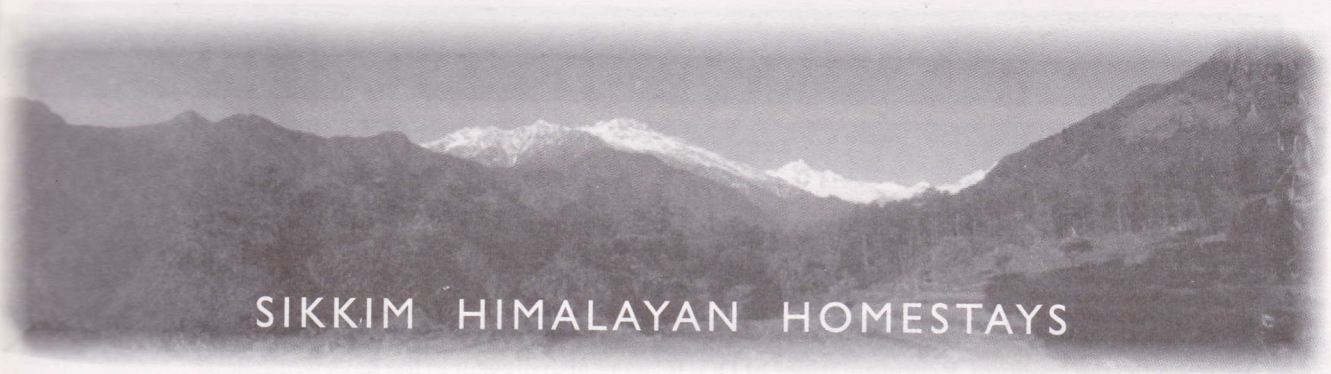
The project sites of Yuksam and Dzongu were selected for the project implementation as keen interest was exhibited by the community groups of these two sites. Both the sites exhibited features and characteristics that were positive and demand driven by the community.

The basic facilitation at the community level was provided by the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC) in Yuksam and Mutanchi Lum Al Shezum (MLAS) in Dzongu (North Sikkim). Collaboration was forged with these community based organizations to work together and achieve the set targets. Both the sites have great accessibility and are located in and around relatively pristine village environments.







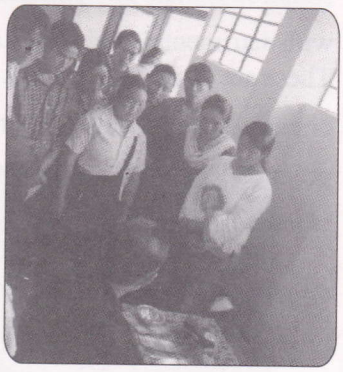


SIKKIM HIMALAYAN HOMESTAYS

The different activities that have been carried out included the following:



- Public awareness and sensitization program for the local residents.
- Participatory planning and designing of project activities
- Environmental and tourism awareness programs for the school children and teachers.
- Training for the stakeholder groups in different tourism enterprises.
- Exposure visits to different sites and participatory workshops and seminars.
- Institutional strengthening training to the existing CBOs.
- Preparation of a Dzongu Ecotourism Map
- Establishment of Dzongu Ecotourism Committee for management of tourism activities in Dzongu.
- Familiarization trips and exposures for the homestay operators.



Subgrants were also made available for the local CBOs to undertake promotional activities that contribute to the overall goal of the project.



Guides Training



Service Providers Training



Training and Workshops

OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. MARKET LINKAGE WORKSHOP

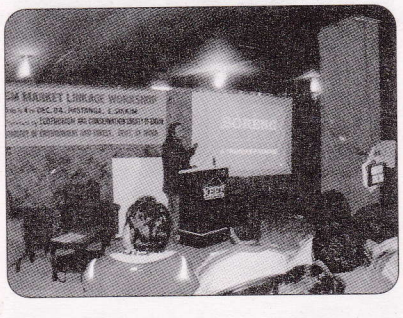
A two days market Linkage workshop was conducted and organized by Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim, which was funded under the Teesta BasinCarrying Capacity Program. The workshop was held on 5th October 2004 at Pastenga Village. Travel agents and tour operators, local CBOs and NGOs from all parts of Sikkim, attended the program. Representatives of DGHC were also present in the days workshop.

Background:

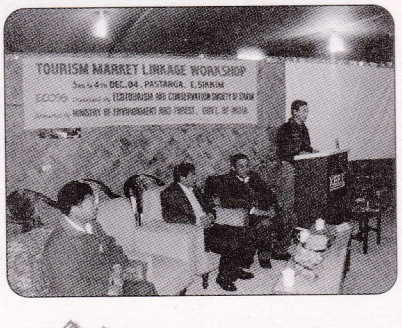
The workshop was held to have a re-look at the marketing of tourism products in the changing tourism scenario. Sikkim would need to position itself clearly as there is no real positioning strategy in place. There is talk of village and ecotourism but there is no real interest in understanding the actual ground level situation. Indeed, the market is playing out all by itself by default. The gross earnings may be increasing but margins are going down rapidly. This situation is in no one's interest. Today average tourist spend is going down. Larger numbers of tourists are visiting with detrimental effect on quality of life as well as the environment.
These are all major concerns for all players in the tourism field as also to the average man on the street. Under such circumstances it was felt that ECOSS can play a crucial role in clarifying various issues for the stakeholders in this process. Sikkim's upcoming travel service providers would find this most interesting. The village service providers would also need to understand the marketing requirements and how to position their products in the market.

Objective of the workshop was to create linkages and exchanges of ideas amongst village tourism service providers and travel operators within Sikkim and also to identify the potential village tourism products. It was also an opportunity to create awareness among the tourism stakeholder groups about market trends and conservation issues. The workshop was an occasion to develop some operating guidelines and set regulations for standardizing of viollage tourism products and the barriers aspect of the same. Much of the workshop deliberations sensitized participants on the above mentioned issues.





Workshop deliberations and sharing

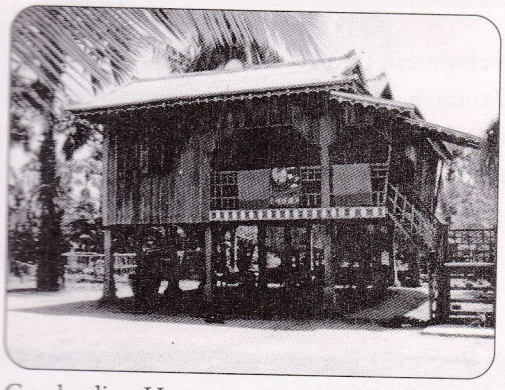


2. CAMBODIA COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM PLANNING TRAINING

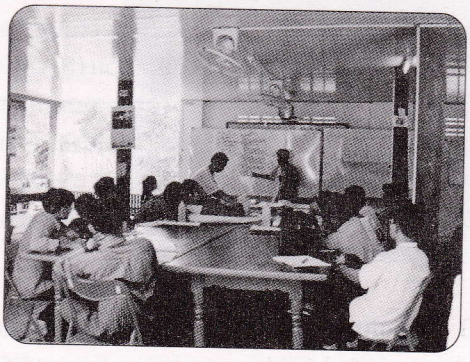
A ten day training on the principals of Appreciative Participatory Planning and Action for community based tourism was conducted by Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim from the 12th to21st of 2004 at **Chambok Ecotourism site in Cambodia.** Cambodia Community Based Ecotourism popularly called the CCBEN organized the training. The training was aimed at the trainer and facilitators of the participating member of the CCBEN. The selection of the participants was done by the CCBEN, which included the Cambodia Government's Forest and Environment Department, NGO's University student and the Mekong Dolphin Conservation Project.

The course was built upon the experiential learning of the participants, with the first four days dedicated to the learning of philosophy of Appreciative Inquiry and Appreciative Planning and Action along with other important skills for community based planning and work. The remaining days were assigned for field visits and planning with the village communities. The participants practiced the tools for community based tourism planning, monitoring and evaluation. As the group size were small the participants got an intensive first hand experience on the application of the knowledge gained.

The whole training was conducted and coordinated by the Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim with the Executive Secretary of ECOSS, Mr. Renzino Lepcha as the lead trainer.



Cambodian Homestay



Training Session



Training Participants

3. TRAINING OF TRAINERS PROGRAM FOR ICIMOD PROJECT PARTNERS

ICIMOD under its landscape conservation program has under taken a program to link the biological corridors in collaboration with its community based partners. These biological corridors extend from Nepal to West Bengal and on to Bhutan. This project is in its preparatory phase. ECOSS was assigned to impart basic community planning skills with special emphasis on Appreciative Participatory Planning and Action (APPA) to project NGO partners from Kalimpong, Darjeeling, Nepal and Bhutan. A week long training was conducted by ECOSS near the Neora National Park in Lava from 5th to 11th April 2004.







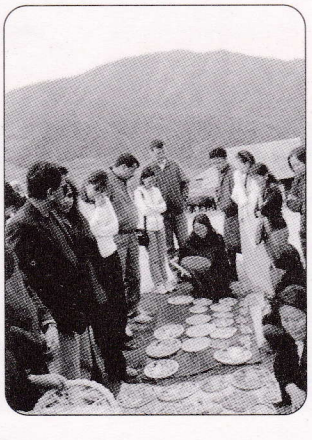
4. SASEC TOURISM WORKING GROUP MEETING AT THIMPHU, BHUTAN

ECOSS Chairman and Executive Secretary attended the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sponsored South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Tourism Working Group meeting in Thimphu, Bhutan from 26th to 28th May 2004. This meeting was to present the SASEC tourism action plan and get commitments from working groups members from different countries to initiate the tourism project ideas that were put together by the tourism consultants. The participation in this event provided ECOSS to express concerns from the region and also ensure that the outcomes of the workshop would be widely disseminated.

ADB consultants working on a tourism plan for South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) countries visited Sikkim and Bagdogra. ECOSS coordinated two successful consultation workshops in both places and received wide ranging inputs for the tourism plan. The final workshop was held in Bhutan where ECOSS represented the region.







5. COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM WORKSHOP - UTTARANCHAL

The Center for Ecotourism and Sustainable Livelihoods, Chunakhan Ramnagar in collaboration with LEAD India and sponsored by Ford India organized a three day Workshop on Community Based Tourism in Western Himalayas at Claridges Corbett Hideaway Garjia Ramnagar from 9-12 January 2005. The workshop was an opportunity to bring all the practitioners together on a common platform and discuss the various issues related with community based tourism. Key case studies from different parts of the country were presented and issues like capacity building, planning and product development, marketing & finance, partnerships and agreements, role of institutions and monitoring and evaluation were discussed.



ECOSS participated as a resource person in this event to facilitate groups discussions and provide inputs into the design of the workshop and also made provision to take participants from Yuksam and Kewzing. The event was meaningful to look at the different models in North India and the different initiatives being taken by various NGOs. It was also a platform to exchange many ideas and inform people about the initiatives in Sikkim. Output of the workshop was widely dessiminated to interested individual and organizations.

Some key ecotourism sites around the Corbet National park were visited by the delegates of the workshop.





6. GANGTOK ECOTOURISM SEMINAR

On 10th February 2005 a seminar on "Ecotourism" was organized by Ecotourism &Conservation Society of Sikkim in partnership with US Consulate, American Centre , Kolkata Office. The afternoon seminar at the Chumbi Residency where more than q120 participants representing the travel trade, educational institutions and professionals assembled on the occasion. the seminar brought to light many interesting features of ecotourism from an international perspective and a question and answer session added flavour to the seminar.

The next day was reserved for interaction between the expert and the tourism department officials, travel agent association of sikkim (TAAS) and Sikkim adventure association of tour operators (SAATO) was held to discuss issues relating to ecotourism promotion in Sikkim.

Organization : Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim

Address : Gangtok (East Sikkim)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2005

	PARTICULARS	CURRENT YEAR AMOUNT	PREVIOUS YEAR AMOUNT
		Rs. P	Rs. P
A	**EXPENDITURE**		
	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENDITURE	548,259.70	558,609.00
	INTEREST ON LOANS	2,841.62	37,966.61
	PROJECT AND PROGRAM EXPENSES 2	2,165,340.50	553,031.50
	OTHERS	11,997.00	43,869.00
	DEPRECIATIONS	45,043.93	48,641.23
	RECEIVABLES WRITTEN OFF	104,400.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES (A)	**2,877,882.75**	**1,242,117.34**
B	**INCOME**		
	MEMBERSHIP FEES	13,155.00	16,200.00
	INTEREST ON SAVING BANK ACCOUNT	11,090.00	3,830.00
	DONATION	0.00	25,000.00
	PROGRAME & PROJECT INCOMES	2,045,699.22	973,644.00
	OTHER RECEIPTS	1,087,145.00	186,221.00
	TOTAL INCOME (B)	**3,157,089.22**	**1,204,895.00**
C	**SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) (B-A)**	**279,206.47**	**(37,222.34)**
	BALANCE B/D	260,373.54	**297,595.88**
		539,580.01	260,373.54
	LESS: TRANSFERED TO OTHER FUND	0.00	0.00
	CARRIED OVER TO STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS	**539,580.01**	**260,373.54**

In terms of our report of even date
For B.C. PERIWAL & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

(B.C. PERIWAL)
PROPRIETOR
Place: Gangtok
Date: 13.05.2005

CHAIRMAN
ECOSS

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ECOSS

Organization : **Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim**

Address : Gangtok (East Sikkim)

BALANCE SHEET

Statement of Affairs as at 31st March 2005

	PARTICULARS	AS AT 31.03.2005 Rs. P	AS AT 31/03.2004 Rs. P
1.	**FUND AND LIABILITIES**		
	GENERAL FUND	0.00	0.00
	FIXED ASSETS GRANT FUND	247,050.00	0.00
	LOAN FUND	0.00	322,158.38
	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT	539,580.01	260,373.54
	DEPOSIT	470,568.00	0.00
	CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS	144,467.70	5,981.00
	TOTAL FUND AND LIABILITIES (1)	**1,401,665.71**	**588,512.92**
2	**ASSETS**		
	FIXED ASSETS	344,260.53	118,754.46
	INVESTMENT AND DEPOSITS	2,880.00	5,760.00
	ADVANCES	0.00	26,800.00
	RECEIVABLES	402,703.00	353,199.00
	OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	651,822.18	83,999.46
	TOTAL ASSETS (B)	**1,401,665.71**	**588,512.92**

In terms of our report of even date
For B.C. PERIWAL & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

(B.C. PERIWAL)
PROPRIETOR
Place: Gangtok
Date: 13.05.2005

CHAIRMAN
ECOSS

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ECOSS

ECOSS Membership List

Individual Members

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7	Bharat Mukhia	Upper .Merry Villa, Zizzag Rd, Darjeeling		bharatmukhia@yahoo.co.in
8	Bhim P. Upreti	SIDICO, Bhanu Path Gangtok	229622	
9	Bhuwan Pradhan	Hotel Wild Orchid, Development Area, Gangtok	203930/ 9434241746	
10	Bimal Kumar Rai	Singithang, Namchi	263830	
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14	D.K.Bhandari	Manju Shree Building, Near Krishi Bawan, Tadong	270636	
15	D.K.Rai	Agriculture Deptt., Namchi, South Sikkim	263829(O), 263730(R)	
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25	Gumnam Sundas	DPH Complex, Gangtok	229108	
26	H.P. Kharel	SIDICO, Gangtok	202287	
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30	Hemant Giri	Nepali Sahitya Parishad, Gangtok	228901(O), 94342 03556	
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36	Kala Rai	Middle Sichey, Gangtok	220990	
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38	Karma Thupten	SIDICO, Gangtok	98323 70711	
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50	Namgyal P. Sherpa	P.O.Box 75, Tibet Road, Gangtok	203701/ 9434033122	trekking@sancharnet.in
51	Namgyal T. Sherpa	Post box. No.113, Gangtok	204550®, 94341 43800	
52	Naveen Kr. Chettri	Home Deptt., Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok	94341 31884	
53	Neelam M. Basnett	P. Box No 8	97330 28729	neelambasnett@yahoo.com
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55	P.J.S.Sodhi	7506. Sector D-7, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi		pra_0211@yahoo.com
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57	Pabitra Subba	Uttarey, W. Sikkim		
58	Padam Subba	Horticulture Deptt, Tadong	270636(O), 94341 10106	
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62	Polash Banerjee	TNA, Gangtok	202406	polashbanerjee@yahoo.co.in
63	Poonam Gazmer	Metro Point, Tadong, Gangtok	9832052482	
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68	Ravi Kiran Pradhan	Near P.I. Quarter, Deorali	9832069571	ravi_kiranpradhan@yahoo.co.in

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71	S.D. Dhakal	Abhilasha, Development Area, Gangtok	203807/ 9434384698	sddhakal@yahoo.com
72	S.K. Pradhan	Siniolchu International (P) Ltd., Gangtok	205569/ 9434024572	info@ourhimalayas.com
73	Sanjay K. Shakya	C/o Rangzung, Tibet Road, Gangtok	203266(O), 98320 37430	
74	Santosh Kr. Rai	Sikkim Binding Industry, Tadong, Gangtok	94343 29530	sent2rai@rediffmail.com
75	Sarikah Atreya	Wichar Prakashan, Namnang, Gangtok	98320 17202	sarikah@yahoo.com
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90	Tshering T. Bhutia	Power Deptt, Gangtok	226322®, 9434169260	
91	Ugen Chopel	Chumbi Residency, Gangtok	9434026620	slg_chumbi@sancharnet.in
92	Wendy Pulger	Chungyal Complex, M.G. Marg, Gangtok	202152	wpulger@gmail.com
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Institutional Members

Name & Address	Phone/Mobile No.	Email address
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3 Himalayan Environment & Tourism Dev. Organization Mr. Bali Bahadur Gurung, Melli, Khechupari, W. Sikkim	9733081931, 03592 287753	
4 Hotel Rendezvous Mr. S.T. Wangdi, Gangtok	9434360999	slg_rezvous@sancharnet.in
5 Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee Mr. P.G. Bhutia, Yuksam, West Sikkim	241211 (M) 94342 41087	kcc_sikkim@hotmail.com
6 M/s Bonvoyage Mr. Samrat Sanyal, Siliguri	2536805	samratsanyal@rediffmail.com
7 M/s Sikkim Ecotech Mr. Sanjeev Pradhan, Gangtok	98323 79567	
8 Marcopolo World Travels Mr. Karma Bhutia, P.S. Road, Gangtok	9434001011	info@worldmarcopolo.com
9 Mystic Himalayan, Mr. Randeep S. Khati, P.S.Road, Gangtok	98320 96275	sikkim@mystichimalayan.com
10 PTDA Mr. Tshering Wangdi, Pelling, W. Sikkim	250757	
11 Sikkim Tours & Travels Mr. Lukendra Rasaily, Church Road, Gangtok	9832033430	slg_lukendra@sancharnet.in
12 Travel Agent Association of Sikkim Chungyal Complex, M.G. Marg, Gangtok	220842	info@ourhimalayas.com
13 UETDA Mr. S.B. Subba, Uttarey, W. Sikkim	9733084992	

Lifetime Members

1 Dr. Nandita Jain Washington, DC, USA	13018913353	njain3@netzero.com

Ecotourism and Conservation Society of Sikkim

Omega Church Building, Development Area, Post Box No 64, Gangtok, Sikkim India
Tel: 03592 - 228211 Telefax - 03592 - 229183 Email: ecoss@sikkiminfo.net

Please tick ☑ whichever is applicable ☐ RENEWAL ☐ ENROLMENT

Affix your Passport size Photo here

All details to be filled in BLOCK LETTERS

Membership Category **INDIVIDUAL**

Name Mr./ Mrs/ Miss _____

Mailing Address _____

_____

State _____ District _____ Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone: (Office) _____ (Residence) _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Tick the one that best describes you:-

☐ Student ☐ Professional

☐ Govt./Public Service ☐ Name of Organization presently working with _____

☐ Any Other _____

I hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the renewal membership as mentioned and amended from time to time in the constitution of ECOSS

_____
Signature

We would appreciate if you could kindly highlight your area of specialization, expertise or field of interest on the back of this form. We need to have a record of the useful resources within our organization.

Thank you.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership Fees Paid Rs..... Vide Cash/Cheque No..... Dated .....
Date of Admission to membership ..... Membership Approved by.....
Membership Identification Number.....

Ecotourism and Conservation Society of Sikkim

Omega Church Building, Development Area, Post Box - 64, Gangtok 737 101 Sikkim India
Tel: 03592 - 228211 Telefax - 03592 - 229183 Email: ecoss@sikkiminfo.net

Please tick ☑ whichever is applicable ☐ RENEWAL ☐ ENROLMENT

Affix your Passport size Photo here

All details to be filled in BLOCK LETTERS

Membership Category **INSTITUTIONAL**

Name of the Organisation _____

Year of Establishment _____

Type of Organisation (Tick ☑ whichever is applicable)

☐ Educational Institution ☐ Private Sector ☐

☐ Government ☐ NGO ☐ Any Other _____

Contact Person Mr/ Ms _____

Mailing Address _____

State _____ District _____ Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone: (Office) _____ (Residence) _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Area of work in which the Organisation is engaged in

_____

_____

_____

_____

We hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the membership as mentioned and amended from time to time in the constitution of ECOSS.

_____

Signature

Seal of Organisation

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership Fees Paid Rs..... Vide Cash/Cheque No. ..... Dated .....

Date of Admission to membership ..... Membership Approved by .....

Membership Identification Number.....