

HIMALAYAN PLANTS FOR PEOPLE: SUSTAINABLE TRADE FOR BIODIVERSITY AND DEVELOPMENT

CONTEXT

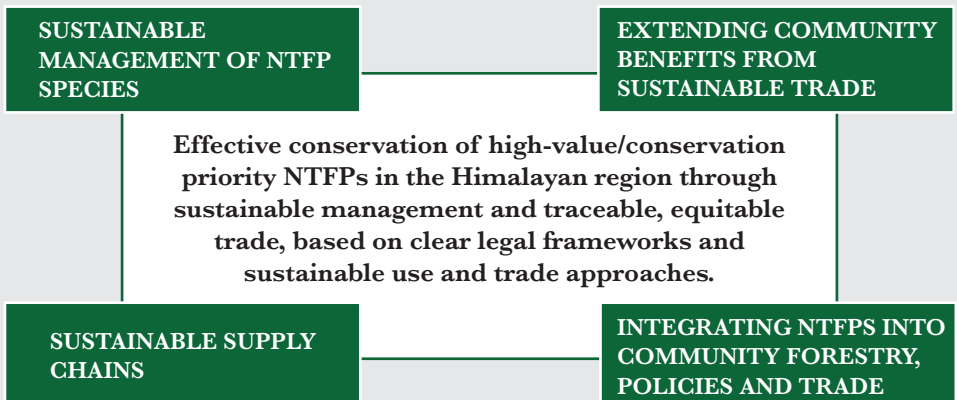
Nepal's alpine Himalayan forests and rangelands are exceptional biodiversity hotspots. They are a source of more than 40 key non-timber forest products (NTFPs) harvested and traded internationally, providing critical contributions to the incomes of rural poor. These NTFPs, and associated high-altitude landscapes, face multiple threats of unsustainable harvesting, fire and uncontrolled grazing. Overharvesting is driven by increasing and diversifying international trade. The challenges of sustainable forest management include inadequate information on sustainable harvest volumes, lack of simplified procedures for high-altitude decentralised resource management, and an inadequate centralised approach to resource monitoring and trade regulation, leaving species vulnerable to excessive commercial harvesting and threatening rural household incomes and government revenues. In this context, this project builds on previously implemented "Succeeding with CITES: Sustainable and equitable Jatamansi trade from Nepal" project, and has scaled up altogether to five districts incorporating additional four high value mountain NTFPs.

PROJECT DURATION

July 2021 - June 2024

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

This project aims to secure local incomes and healthcare, threatened by declining biodiversity and natural resource access, linked to overharvest of medicinal species in Nepal's high Himalayas.

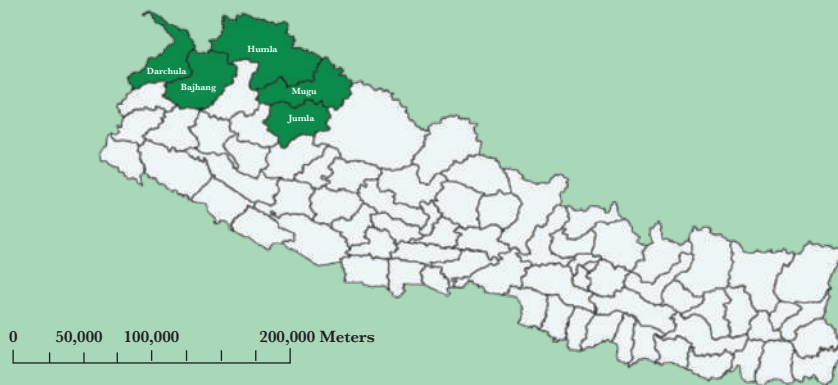


ACTIVITIES

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT	EXTENDING COMMUNITY BENEFITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Carry out detailed resource inventories of three high value NTFPs and other associated harvested species in 30 community forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Establish harvesters and producer enterprise levels baselines and final evaluation in the target districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Conduct situation analysis to understand resource governance in target areas and status of forest management plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Train harvesters and processing workers on FairWild (fairwild.org), and organic standards and certification
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support to revise CFUG management plans including the provision of sustainable management of high value NTFPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop and update the harvester's registration system in community managed forests in the project sites
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop a training packages for the harvesters and relevant stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support the set-up of the CFUGs-level harvesters and workers sub-committee for regulating the fair trade and equitable benefit sharing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Deliver capacity-building to trainers and to target CFUGs with the focus on participatory plant resource management, sustainable harvesting techniques, and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop FairWild premium fund operation guideline in each project districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Undertake the participatory monitoring of the target areas, in collaboration with key stakeholders	INTEGRATION IN TRADE & POLICIES
SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop an evaluation framework for assessing the long-term suitability for international trade of high-value NTFPs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Conduct value chain and market analysis of three target NTFPs species to identify priority markets and commercial partners to maximise their export potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop and disseminate a practical guideline on including NTFPs harvesting and management in CFUG management plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support the development of local capacities in Nepal to implement FairWild and enable market access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Develop a model plan for decentralized alpine natural resources management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Facilitate the engagement and development of trade agreements with potential identified buyers interested in sustainable NTFPs from target areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Provide orientation and hands-on training to local and national FECOFUN to facilitate the dissemination of guideline including NTFP harvesting and management along with the model plan across Nepal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support the implementation of FairWild requirements, including the traceability system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Consultation meetings and dialogue to embed sustainability considerations in Nepal's trade policy and agreement concerning NTFPs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support the FairWild audit of at least five supply chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Support and facilitate the CBD and CITES Government authorities to comply with international conventions and targets

MAP OF PROJECT AREA

The project is implemented in five high mountain districts of Nepal: Jumla, Mugu, Humla, Bajhang and Darchula.



OUTPUTS

1. Across 25,000 ha of biodiversity-rich and fragile mountain habitat, at least three species of high-value NTFPs (Kutki, Jatamansi and Himalayan Fritillary) managed sustainably by local communities.
2. At least 5,000 (40% women) harvesters/processors across project five districts will benefit from reduced price fluctuations through longer-term trade agreements and an increased income of >5% from NTFPs.
3. 20 producer enterprises (at least 200 beneficiaries) will be trained in FairWild, and at least 5 supply chains are in place, led by producers/exporters in Nepal, and 'matched' to manufacturers in consumer markets, based on sustainable production systems following FairWild Standard.
4. Policies, legislation and strategies at federal, provincial and local levels incentivise and enable a long-term shift towards sustainable use and trade in NTFPs in Nepal.

For more information

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