

Activity n.10

Area COMMUNITIES WELL BEING

Activity code: AA3b

Test and evaluate best practices for sustainable natural resource management

EXPECTED RESULT R3

Local-level natural resource management improved

This result will be achieved by an integration of “soft” - awareness rising and information - and “hard” - institutional development and best practices – activities. The definition of the result itself is to some degree dependent on the ongoing developments regarding the CKNP Management Plan, with regard to zoning and use-regulations and will be closely coordinated with this ongoing process. Lessons learned about implementation of park regulations and NRM management at the local level has been taken into account in order to render the activities most successful and to avoid known pitfalls. Furthermore, sensitization and awareness raising are being carried out in reference to an existing communication and outreach strategy and program for conservation-related issues.



Implementing partners: Ev-K2-CNR & KIU



Implementation Period - 6 Months

Focus area - Hushey, Basha, Haramosh, Bagrote, Hoper, Hispar Valleys

Budget - 13,657,143 PKR



RESULTS:

The activity is going to start in July 2014. Based on the findings emerged from the CKNP Management Plan drafting and in line with the participatory approach with local communities and the PC1-Phase II draft, the priority actions deemed necessary to provide CKNP with an executive structure and to cope with the various aspects related to the management of a protected area have been included in the Operational Plan (OP) document (Appendix 8 of the CKNP Management Plan Integration and Operational Document). The following topics are being treated in the OP:

- natural preservation features;
- needs and expectations of local communities;
- potential impact of the various anthropic activities conducted within Park protected areas and the Park adjacent areas.

The OP is structured in two complementary sections:

SECTION 1 – Park Management: it is functional to ensure the proper structuring of the various aspects related to the CKNP Management;

SECTION 2 – Natural Resources Sustainable Use: it is aimed at the achievement of a sustainable use of renewable natural resources by local communities.

On the basis of the indications enclosed in the Operational Plan, some interventions aiming at implementing the activities are going to be carried out over the period 2014/2015 (SEM 10 and SEM 11).

In order to make this process more efficient and to optimize the resources, some valleys which may be called "Pilot Valleys", have been identified. Within these valleys, activities for a sustainable use of natural resources will be developed and a new management systems will be introduced in order to reduce the impacts caused on the Park's internal areas

and in particular in the Buffer Zone.

Pilot Valleys are 6 (on a total of 15 valleys surrounding the CKNP): Hushey (including different villages such as Hushey, Khanday, Marzigond, Talis), Basha (Basha and Arandu), Haramosh, Bagrote, Hoper, Hispar. The selection of the valleys was done on the basis of different parameters: fair distribution among different Districts; balance between various development conditions; non homogeneous ecosystems; mayor criticalities.

Some Valley Conservation and Sustainable Development Plans, in collaboration with WWF, at village basis, are going to be developed and will focus on the following aspects.



CKNP

The Central Karakoram National Park (CKNP), in the Northern Area of Pakistan, was declared National Park in 1993. In 2014 the CKNP, thanks to the Seed Project, with official approval of the Management Plan by the Gilgit Baltistan Government, becomes fully operational. It is a mountain area covering over 10,000 km² that includes the world's largest glaciers, outside the Polar Regions. CKNP is the highest National Park all over the world encompassing four peaks over 8,000 m including K2 www.ckn.org



Seed

The SEED (Socio Economic and Environmental Development) Project is carried out in Gilgit- Baltistan by EvK2C-NR, in collaboration with KIU (Karakoram International University) and other partners. The project, fully financed by the Governments of Italy and Pakistan through PIDSA (Pakistan Italian Debt for Development Swap Agreement), aims at an integrative development of CKNP region.

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