Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (KCA): the region's first community managed conservation area

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The government of Nepal declared 2035 sq.km. area of Taplejung district as Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (KCA) in 1997 to protect and manage the biological and cultural resources of the region.

It covers 4 vdc's with 968 households. The total population in this area is 5254. There are 81 user groups and 7 user committees.
It is being managed based on approved KCA management plan (2063/64-2067/68), KCA Management Regulation 2064 and Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) strategies.
Government of Nepal (GoN) decided in 2006 to hand over the management of entire protected area to the local people.

Witnessing the functioning of KCA since last five years, GoN recently declared similar conservation areas in the West
• With population of more than 5,000 only over 200 youths are literate. We should focus to implement programs to empower these youths for planning and management

• Engaging them full time in conservation activity based on their traditional knowledge and intervening with necessary modern conservation tools
Management Structure

Conservation Area management Council (1)

Conservation Area User Committee (7)

User Groups (44)  Mother Groups (32)
The annual inflow of tourists is less than 500
KCA as SEPL

IPSI-WWG programs:
1. Quality tourism programs
2. Community Development Programmes
3. Conservation Support Programmes
4. Supporting Activities

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