



PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

State Party: His Majesty's Government of Nepal,
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation,
Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
Property Name: Sagarmatha National Park (#120)

PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

Conclusion

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

**PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION
(FORMAT)**

SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

II.1 Introduction

- a. State Party
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party

II.2. Statement of significance

II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity

II.4. Management

II.5. Factors affecting the property

II.6. Monitoring

II.7. Conclusions and recommended action

- a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
- b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
- c. Proposed future action/actions
- d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
- e. Timeframe for implementation
- f. Needs for international assistance.

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

II.9. Documentation attached

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Nepal	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: Sagarmatha National Park	002
c.	<p>In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.</p> <p>The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).</p> <p>On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):</p> <p>Centre point: North-west corner: South-east corner:</p> <p>The Sagarmatha National Park is located between: 27° 46' 19" to 27° 06' 45" North latitudes 86° 30' 53" to 86° 99' 08" East longitudes</p> <p>The buffer zone is located between: 27° 38' 46" to 27° 48' 07" North latitudes 86° 33' 21" to 86° 49' 30" East longitudes (the settlements within the park boundary are buffer zone)</p>	003
d.	Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable): October 26, 1979	004
e.	<p>Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report. Sagarmatha National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): Sagarmatha National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: Mr Kamal Jung Kunwar, Warden, SNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)</p> <p>Address: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Babar Mahal</p> <p>City and post code: GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</p> <p>Telephone: ++ 977 1 220912</p> <p>Fax: ++ 977 1 227675</p> <p>E-mail: dnpsc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</p>	005
f.	Date of preparation of the report: December 27, 2002	006
g.	<p>Signature on behalf of the State Party</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Function:</p>	007

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.2. Statement of significance

	<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:</p> <p>Cultural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv – v – vi</p> <p>Natural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv</p> <p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√)YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>Buffer Zone (275 square kilometer) was extended with a gazette notification on January 01, 2002</p> <p>The park covers an area of 1,148 square kilometre</p>	<p>008</p> <p>009</p> <p>010</p>
	<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:</p> <p>The following observations were made at the time of nomination in 1979:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Without question Sagarmatha National Park fills the requirements of C(10) iii “superlative natural phenomena of exceptional natural beauty” • The area is under professional management with a master plan • There are approximately 2,500 Sherpa people living within the park. • There are six altitudinal vegetation classes from oak forest at the lower elevations to lichens and mosses at the highest elevations. • The Himalayan zone provides the barrier between the Palearctic realm and the Indomalayan realm • Difficult problem to be solved is on excessive forest cutting 	<p>011</p>
	<p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p> <p>Decision of the World Heritage Committee (The Committee made no statement.)</p> <p>Brief description: “Sagarmatha is an exceptional area with dramatic mountains, glaciers and deep valleys, dominated by Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world (8,848 metres). The Park shelters several rare species, such as the snow leopard and the lesser panda. The presence of the Sherpas, with their unique culture, add further interest to this site.”</p>	<p>012</p>
	<p>Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government declared a buffer zone that now involves local community in forest management and community development • The Buffer Zone Management Committee and user committees protested against the expansion of the Syangboche airstrip in 2002 	<p>013</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.2. continued

<p>Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.:</p> <p>The Sagarmatha National Park (SNP) meets the criteria iii for the World heritage natural properties. The park has superlative natural phenomena of exceptional natural beauty with the highest mountain peak, the Sagarmatha (8,848m). It also satisfies the criteria where natural and cultural elements are found in exceptional combination.</p> <p>The park is a major religious and cultural significance in Nepal since it abounds in holy places like the Tengboche monastery and also is the homeland of the Sherpas whose ways of life is unique to the local environment.</p> <p>Extensive research and descriptive works have been carried out on the natural and cultural aspects of the area.</p>	014
<p>For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable following the substantive revision of the criteria by the World Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√)YES / NO</p>	015
<p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>The Makalu Barun National Park (1,500 sq km) and buffer zone (830 sq km), established in 1991, serves as an extension of the SNP to its eastern boundary. The park and the buffer zone links with the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area (2,035 sq km) via the Milke-Jaljale range. The DNPWC has envisioned inclusion of the Makalu Barun National Park (1,500 sq km) and Buffer Zone (830 sq km) by extending the World Heritage Site (WHS) of Sagarmatha National Park and its buffer zone.</p> <p>Recently, a concept of establishing another national park in the Rolwaling region has been floated. The Rolwaling region lies in the west of the SNP and links with the Langtang National Park (1,710 sq km) and buffer zone (420 sq km).</p>	016
<p>Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√)YES / NO</p>	017
<p>If NO, please explain why not, and indicate what changes should be made to the boundaries of the property and / or its buffer zone (please indicate these changes also on a map to be attached to this report):</p> <p>The present boundary of the Sagarmatha National Park covers an area of 1,148 sq km with its 2/3rd area lying above the altitude of 5000 metre. Its WHS properties are well maintained. However, biologists have suggested that SNP's future would be secured with the conservation of its surrounding landscapes. DNPWC has envisioned a modality of landscape level biological diversity conservation in and around Sagarmatha with the following seven biological corridors:</p>	018

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>East</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SNP/BZ + Makalu Barun National Park and Buffer Zone (MBNP/BZ) 2. SNP/BZ + MBNP/BZ + proposed Milke Jaljale Conservation Area (MJCA) 3. SNP/BZ + MBNP/BZ + MJCA + Kangchenjunga Conservation Area (KCA) + Kangchandangzongha Biosphere Reserve in Sikkim, India <p>West</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. SNP/BZ + Rolwaling Area (conceptualised for establishing a national park) 5. SNP/BZ + Rolwaling Area + Langtang National Park and Buffer Zone <p>South</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. SNP/BZ + southern part of Solukhumbu district (including Juving VDC) <p>North</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. SNP/BZ + Qomolongma Nature Preserve in the Tibetan Autonomous Region of China <p>Senior officials of His Majesty's Government of Nepal and their counterparts have exchanged their visions and ideas for cooperation and coordination between SNP and the Qomolongma Nature Preserve at the transboundary meetings between the two countries.</p>	
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	<p>Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO(<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>)</p>	019
	<p>If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:</p>	020

II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

	<p>Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>)YES / NO</p>	021
	<p>If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:</p> <p>In general the WHS values of SNP has increased with the increase in the population of endangered species such as rhinoceros and tigers. The buffer zone has been brought under forest coverage by plantation and natural forest regeneration.</p> <p>However, there has been a massive deforestation and changes in other land uses in the park and the Pharak area that is now under the buffer zone. During the period of 18 years (1978 to 1996), forest and grassland have decreased considerably (77% and 60% respectively). The cultivated area has also decreased by 11 %. The figures in the following table reveal that the land was converted mostly into others (rivers/sand) due to various causes including GLOF and soil erosion.</p>	022

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<p>Land Use Change in Sagarmatha National Park (1978-1996) (area in sq km)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Land Cover</th> <th>1978</th> <th>1996</th> <th>Change</th> <th>Change %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cultivated</td> <td>6.35</td> <td>5.65</td> <td>-0.7</td> <td>-11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forest</td> <td>21.39</td> <td>4.95</td> <td>-16.44</td> <td>-77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grass</td> <td>208.8</td> <td>82.64</td> <td>-126.16</td> <td>-60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shrub</td> <td>9.73</td> <td>25.97</td> <td>16.24</td> <td>167</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others (River/Sand)</td> <td>901.73</td> <td>1028.79</td> <td>127.06</td> <td>136</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Similarly, the increasing number of trekkers and climbers has created threats to the WHS values. During the period of six years between 1991-1997, a total of 2,153 permits were issued for trekking peaks and were climbed by 10,435 climbers. Similarly, a total of 281 permits were issued to mountaineering expeditions climb major peaks.</p> <p>At times, Sir Edmund Hillary expressed that Mt Sagarmatha (Everest) should be given rest for a few years. However, His Holiness Rinpoche of Tengboche opines that the <i>Mother of the Universe</i> would feel relaxation only when both the countries (Nepal and China) agree on the matter.</p>	Land Cover	1978	1996	Change	Change %	Cultivated	6.35	5.65	-0.7	-11	Forest	21.39	4.95	-16.44	-77	Grass	208.8	82.64	-126.16	-60	Shrub	9.73	25.97	16.24	167	Others (River/Sand)	901.73	1028.79	127.06	136	
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<p>What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):</p> <p>As quoted in the World Heritage Nomination – IUCN Technical Evaluation for 120 Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal (May 1979).</p> <p>“The area is under the professional management of the National park and Wildlife Conservation staff. A draft management plan has been prepared with the technical assistance of the Government of New Zealand. The implementation of the master plan is underway.</p> <p>Difficult problems remain to be resolved, excessive forest cutting, and tourist integration with social, economic and environmental circumstances of considerable complexity.</p> <p>Without question Sagarmatha National Park fills the requirements of C(10) iii ‘a superlative natural phenomenon of exceptional natural beauty.</p> <p>On May 29, 1953, Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary were the first to stand on the highest peak in the world. ‘We climbed because nobody climbed it before, it was mountain to climb,’ Hillary.”</p> <p>The World Heritage Nomination document concluded, “That Sgarmatha National park be placed on the World Heritage Convention.”</p>	023																														
<p>Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (√)</p>	024																														
<p>If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?</p>	025																														
<p>Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the</p>	026																														

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<p>near future?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√)YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:</p> <p>Unplanned growth in the number of visitors, mountaineers and their guides and porters is the major issue that need to be addressed while undertaking management of the park and buffer zone. The increasing number of hotels and lodges will also be the factors that may have impact of the World Heritage Site (WHS) value.</p> <p>The proposed expansion of the Syangboche airstrip has been cancelled at present. However, the park administration and its supervisory body DNPWC and MFSC will develop public support for not undertaking the airstrip expansion project anymore in the future.</p> <p>The park administration is informed of the mountaineering expeditions, but not consulted for providing them with climbing permits. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Mountaineering Association grant such permits. Unless the MFSC/DNPWC and the park administration are not directly involved in the process of giving permits, protection of the WHS value of the park will remain practically ineffective.</p>	027
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II.4. Management

<p>How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Legal (√)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contractual ()</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional ()</p>	028
<p>Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:</p> <p>The arrangements for the protection and management of the SNP and BZ are primarily legal. However, under the NPWC Act 1973 and its amendments, and the Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979, DNPWC has also made some provisions for contractual and traditional systems. Brief notes of the arrangements are as follows:</p> <p>Legal</p> <p>Under the NPWC Act 1973 and its subsequent amendments, the park authority is a legal entity responsible for the protection and management of the property. The park management has a network of 9 guard posts (4 under park administration, 3 under park administration and RNA, 2 under RNA). At present, all the posts under RNA are consolidated into one post at park headquarters, Namche. The Dole post is closed at present. The list of the posts is as follows:</p>	029

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<i>Posts under park administration</i>	<i>Posts under park administration and RNA</i>	<i>Posts under RNA only</i>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phurte 2. Tashing 3. Syangboche 4. Debuche 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jorsalle 2. Dole (closed at present) 3. Namche (Park headquarters) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thame 2. Phungithanga 		
<p>The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. The RNA has been in operation since the establishment of the park in 1976. In the initial phase, their strength was only 40 men. In 1977, the RNA started its operation with its full strength of one company of 256 men under the command of a Major. They operate their activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority. The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been major contributing factors in the protection of the property.</p> <p>Contractual</p> <p>Under the NPWC Act 1973 as amended in 1993 and the Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has empowered the Buffer Zone Management Committee of SNP with an authority to protect and manage the natural resources in the buffer zone (275 square kilometer). Under the regulations, the Management Committee receives 30% to 50% of the park revenue for the implementation of conservation and development programs in the buffer zone. Also, the buffer zone user committees/groups are given responsibilities of managing the buffer zone forests based on their work plans. There are three buffer zone user committees representing three Village Development Committees, namely Khumjung, Namche and Chaurikharka.</p> <p>Traditional</p> <p>The Sherpas communities have strong traditional systems of managing their natural resources. They do not hunt nor do they harm any wildlife, because of their religious faith. Similarly, the Sherpas have a system of local forest guards known as <i>Shingo ngawa</i>. The <i>ngawas</i> control and regulate harvest of forest products, grazing and other activities. The monasteries in the park are equally influential to maintain such systems.</p> <p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (✓)</p> <p>Please explain:</p> <p>The current legislative and/or traditional protection need to be reviewed and revised as necessary to address the issues as follows:</p> <p><i>Legislative:</i> The NPWC Act 1973 and its amendments and the Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 and the Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 need to be reviewed and revised to address the issues of mountaineering, airstrip expansion, hotel/lodges and hydropower developments;</p> <p><i>Traditional:</i> The traditional system of the Sherpa community popularly known as,</p>				030
				031

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p><i>Shingo Ngawa, will be further promoted their participation the protection of the WHS values in the park.</i></p>	
	<p>Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:</p> <p><i>Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990</i></p> <p><i>Article 26 State Policies</i></p> <p><i>“ (4) The State shall give priority to the protection of the environment and also to the prevention of its further damage due to physical development activities by increasing the awareness of the general public about environmental cleanliness, and the State shall also make arrangements for the protection of the rare wildlife, the forests and the vegetation.”</i></p> <p>The Acts and Regulations pertinent to SNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments in 1975, 1983, 1990, 1993 • Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 • Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 • Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999 <p>His Majesty the King Gyanendra (then His Royal Highness Prince) announced the decision to establish the park at the World Congress of the World Wildlife Fund at Bonn in October 1973.</p> <p><i>“We sincerely believe that this region and its surroundings in the grandeur of the Khumbu Valley are of significance not only to us but the whole world as an ecological, cultural and geographical treasure which, we hope, should provide peace and tranquility and be a significant contribution to a better World Heritage.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">- His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Bonn, 5th October 1973.</p> <p>The SNP is the third national park in the country declared under the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973. The Act with its 4 amendments and the Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 give special power to the Chief Warden for the protection of the park. The Act and the amendments clearly mention various arrangements for the protection of endangered species of wildlife and their consumptive and non-consumptive uses of biodiversity so that the welfare of the people is sustained. Several bye laws have been promulgated under this Act which gives HMG the authority to create parks and reserves, give complete protection of species as listed in the Schedule 1. The Act also promotes regulated tourism and designate harvest fees and regulations for other common species outside the protected areas.</p> <p>The fourth amendment of the Act in 1993 has made a provision to declare buffer zone in area surrounding a park or reserve. The Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 provides authority to the Chief Warden to design programmes in consultation with community in the buffer zone that are compatible with the national park management.</p>	032

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

It allows ploughing back 30% to 50% of the park generated revenues for community development activities in buffer zone. The Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 and Guidelines 1999 outlines procedure for managing buffer zone including the formation of user groups, user committees, Buffer Zone Management Committee, disbursement of revenue, and settlement of compensation.

Strategy and Plans

The first management plan prepared in 1981 contains 3 parts (Information, Management Objectives, and Management Policies). The objectives address on nature conservation, water and soil conservation, indigenous population, religious and historic values, tourism, mountaineering and energy.

The National Conservation Strategy for Nepal 1988 has formally shaped conservation efforts in the country. It has emphasised on the sustainable use of land and natural resources.

The Master Plan for the Forestry Sector 1988 has identified the conservation of ecosystem and genetic resources as one of its long term objectives. The plan has stated that meeting the basic needs of the people is a pre-requisite to reduce park people conflict. Almost all the five-year national development plans of Nepal have stressed on the conservation of biodiversity. His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC), with the cooperation of GEF and UNDP, prepared the Nepal Biodiversity Strategy in 2002.

The other relevant Acts and Conventions are:

- Tourism Act 1977
- Mountaineering Expedition Regulations 1979
- Environment Protection Act 1996
- Nepal Forest Act 1993 and its amendments
- Water Resources Act 1992
- Soil and Water Conservation Act 1982
- Aquatic Animal Protection Act 1961
- Ramsar Convention 1971
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972
- CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 1975
- Convention on Biological Diversity 1992

II.4. continued

<p>Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organisations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p>	033																		
<p>The property is directly under the administration of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation. Its line ministry is the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC).</p> <p>The RNA company is deployed for the protection of the park. The company is supervised by the Ministry of Defence through its Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves. Under the command of a Major, the RNA company coordinates with the Chief Warden for its operation. At the central level, the Director General of the DNPWC and the head of Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves communicate on a regular basis.</p> <p>In case of the tourism entrepreneurs, the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, and the Nepal Tourism Board are the line agencies. The association directly communicates with the chief warden of the park. The Ministry is also responsible for granting permission to the mountaineering expeditions above 20,000' altitude, whereas the Nepal Mountaineering Association gives such permission for the peaks below 20,000'.</p> <p>The office of the Buffer Zone Management Committee has recently been formed. The Management Committee and its user committees are elected for 5 years term. The 3 user committees represent the 3 village development committees, namely Khumjung, Namche and Chaurikharka.</p> <p>The office of the SNP is manned with the following posts at present (figures in parenthesis indicate persons on duty at present):</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr><td>Chief Warden</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Rangers</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>Administrative Assistant</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Accountant</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Storekeeper</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Senior Game Scouts</td><td style="text-align: right;">6</td></tr> <tr><td>Game Scouts</td><td style="text-align: right;">24</td></tr> <tr><td>Horse keeper</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Total staff members</td><td style="text-align: right;">38</td></tr> </table>	Chief Warden	1	Rangers	3	Administrative Assistant	1	Accountant	1	Storekeeper	1	Senior Game Scouts	6	Game Scouts	24	Horse keeper	1	Total staff members	38	034
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<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p>Property ()</p> <p>Regional ()</p> <p>National (√)</p> <p>Other (please describe):</p> <p>In overall, the property is managed at the national level that is under the direct supervision of the DNPWC under the MFSC. The buffer zone user committees are given responsibilities to locally manage some patches of forests as community forests in the buffer zone.</p>																			

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Similarly the SNP has been identified as a pivotal area under the broader vision of landscape level management and biological corridors connecting the protected areas (such as the Makalu Barun National park and buffer zone in Nepal and Qomolongma Nature Reserve in Tibetan Autonomous Region, China). SNP is ecologically linked with the Langtang National Park in the central Nepal and Kangchenjunga Conservation Area in the north-east corner of Nepal.</p> <p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p> <p>Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation PO Box 860 Babar Mahal, Kathmandu Tel: ++ 977 1 220912 Fax: ++ 977 1 227675 Email: dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</p>	035
<p>Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property? (√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, explain why this is the case:</p> <p>The two main revisions to be made in the administrative and management for the property are as follows:</p> <p>i. Strengthening the park office:</p> <p>Considering the present challenges and issues such as expanding responsibilities of buffer zone management and the increasing activities of tourism/mountaineering, the office of the chief warden should be strengthened with additional personnel, such one conservation officer, and deputation of all the staff in the field.</p> <p>ii. Involving the park administration in development and tourism/mountaineering activities</p> <p>Considering the accountability of the park administration in the park, it is essential to involve the park office in every activity that will take place in the park. Such activities include hydropower development, tourism promotion, mountaineering expedition, medicinal herbs farming, infrastructure development e.g. airstrip.</p>	036 037
<p>Is there a management plan for the property? (√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please summarise, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:</p> <p>With the joint cooperation between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and New Zealand Government, the first management plan for the Sagarmatha National Park was prepared in 1981. The plan contains 3 parts (Information, Management Objectives, and Management Policies). The objectives address on nature conservation, water and soil conservation, indigenous population, religious and historic values, tourism, mountaineering and energy. The New Zealand Government supported His Majesty's Government of Nepal for the implementation of the plan.</p> <p>On behalf of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, the Ministry of Finance signed with UNDP for a project, Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes (TRPAP # NEP – 99/013). The UNDP, SNV-Nepal and United Kingdom's DFID Nepal are the supporters for the 5 years project (2002 to 2007). For the project implementation, the two government line agencies, MFSC and the Ministry of</p>	038 039

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<p>Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding on May 24, 2002. Within the framework of the MOU, DNPWC and MoCTCA signed a Letter of Agreement to implement the SNP and its buffer zone Management and Tourism Plan Preparation and Implementation Activities of the TRPAP.</p> <p>The main outputs and program support, and their budget for 5 years (2002 - 2007) are as follows :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revision of the SNP and Buffer Zone Management Plan, and Preparation of Tourism Plan (consultation with stakeholders, scientific research, review, Initial Environmental Examination etc.) US\$280,500 2. Capacity enhancement /building (needs assessment, manual/curricula, overseas exchange, educational materials, visitor information centre etc.) US\$340,500 3. Implementation of the approved management/tourism plans for the park and buffer zone (pilot activities, visitor information centre, infrastructures, waste management, alternate energy, "Sustainable Tourism Village Fund" etc.) US\$331,356 4. Program support (staff, travel, equipment, communication etc) US\$282,000 <p>The main aim of TRPAP is to support the government's policy of reducing poverty through the development of tourism in Nepal. Its overall objective is to reduce poverty and conserve the natural and cultural heritage by helping the poor rural communities and to develop their capacity for sustainable rural tourism development through awareness raising, training, skill enhancement, village tourism development funds and improvement of infrastructure. The programme will be implemented in 48 Village Development Committees from 7 districts including Chitwan and Solukhumbu for the period of 5 years (2002 to 2007).</p>	
<p>Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):</p> <p>Park administration</p> <p>At present the park administration is under staffed. There are only 38 positions available for the park management that has now additional responsibility of buffer zone management (See box # 033). For the effective management of the park, it is essential to strengthen the park office by creating more positions at the professional level. In addition, the park office should be strengthened to address the buffer zone activities and tourism/mountaineering issues in addition the park management (See box # 037). The park administration need to be consulted by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Mountaineering Association for granting permits to the trekking groups or mountaineering expeditions.</p> <p>Management plan</p> <p>It is essential to prepare a new management plan to address the recent development and issues such as buffer zone declaration, tourism and mountaineering attractions, hydropower development, physical infrastructure including Syangboche airstrip, medicinal herb farming, garbage management and so on.</p> <p>Buffer zone work plans</p> <p>The buffer zone declaration has highly encouraged the local communities to participate in the management of natural resources and protection of the WHS</p>	040

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p>values. The three user committees in the buffer zone have developed their bylaws and work plan for the next five years of their tenure. It is essential to finalise such bylaws and work plans without any administrative delays so that their enthusiasm will continue.</p> <p>For example, the Khumjung Buffer Zone User Committee has prepared their five year plan addressing four major areas, such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Program (kerosene/gas depot, forest nursery, tree plantation, incinerators, alternative energy, herbal medicine, heritage/culture conservation) Rs 22,852,500 (%35.42) • Community Development (bridge and trail, sewerage management, corpse incinerator, soil conservation, drinking water, public toilet, school building, electricity line extension, health centers, institutional development of user groups, conservation award) Rs 35,090,000 (54.38%) • Income Generation (hotel management, carpentry, nature guide, rural agriculture extension, veterinary, small hydro mechanics, sewing/cutting, green house, compost making, vegetable farming, bakery, water purification/bottling) Rs 5,200,000 (8.06%) • Conservation Education (school program, audio visual, pamphlets/leaflets/booklets, awareness workshops, students stipend, non formal education, sign board/posting) Rs 1,380,000 (2.14%) <p>Code of conduct</p> <p>It is equally important as expressed by the buffer zone representatives and the local residents that the park administration should come prepare code of conducts to protect the WHS values of the park.</p>	
	<p>Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Conservation</u> Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation: <p>Buffer zone management</p> <p>The buffer zone implementation since January 2002 was the major intervention to protect the core area of the park through community based natural resource management in the periphery. The most conspicuous intervention of buffer zone promoted encouraging results in mobilising public participation. The local inhabitants have been highly encouraged with this new policy intervention. In a less than one year of implementation, the Buffer Zone Management Committee along with the 3 user committees have been formed representing the three Village Development Committees (Namche, Khumjung, and Chaurikharka). The user committees have already prepared their annual work plans (See box #040).</p> <p>Government administration</p> <p>The park administration is fully operational with a senior conservation officer as a chief warden. Regular presence of the park staff has helped manage the park, although not all the posts were filled up. The Chief Warden administers the park with the 38 positions available (See box #033). The park administration conducts regular annual activities as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation education (2 secondary, 3 lower secondary and 8 primary schools) 	041

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

- Habitat management (improvement and conservation)
- Tourism infrastructures (5 visitor information centres)
- Buffer zone management (area 275 sq km, population 7,168)
- Infrastructures development (48 wooden/suspension bridges, 7 helipads, 1 airport, 1 airstrip, 8 hydropower stations, solar power for 169 households, 15 drinking water schemes, 1 hospital and 8 health posts, 6 meteorological stations)
- Religious sites preservation (19 Buddhists monasteries and 1 Shiva temple)
- Conservation and management of National Parks and its resources

Protection by the Royal Nepal Army

The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. Under the command of a Major, the RNA operates its activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority. The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been major contributing factors in the protection of the property (See box 029).

Forest management and Tree plantation

With an aim to revegetate the area, over 150 hectares have been brought under plantation of various species like Blue pine, Silver fir, Juniper, Birch, and Willow. The Himalayan Trust (HT), founded in 1960, has been the major driving force on forest management and tree plantation. The Trust operates three nurseries at Phorche, Tashinga and Phurte to meet its target of planting 70,000 saplings a year. The Trust nurture almost 100,000 trees each year. It has already planted more than 1 million tree saplings in the Sagarmatha National Park.

Other activities the Trust undertakes include monitoring of native forest growth and the factors which influencing it (such as wild tahr), plus promoting sustainable use of forest resources to both locals and visitors.

Similarly, under the separate agreement with the WWF, a Sagarmatha Community Agroforestry Project has been launched to promote community forestry and natural forest regeneration in the buffer zone. In the Pharak area, all the forest areas have been handed over to the local forest user groups for management.

The forest nurseries in the SNP and buffer zone are as follows :

Location	Year Established	Production Capacity	Managed by
Phorche	1984	160,000	HT
Tashinga	1982	75,000	HT
Phurte	1984	60,000	HT
Phakding	1999	120,000	WWF
Namche	1999	50,000	WWF

A remarkable step taken in favour of forest conservation was the eradication of goats from the park in 1980s. The SPCC, with support of the local people and the DNPWC, purchased all the goats in the park and had them removed. An agreement was then arranged so that no more goats would be kept by the local residents.

<p>Garbage management</p> <p>The Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) is a local nongovernment organisation established in 1991 with an objective to manage garbage in the Khumbu region. The committee has managed 767,776kg of garbage during the period from 1994-95 to 1997-98, as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1994-95</td> <td>126,373</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1995-96</td> <td>189,824</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1996-97</td> <td>242,091</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1997-98</td> <td>209,488</td> </tr> </table> <p>Amount of garbage collection has increased over the years. In 2000-01 alone, the committee collected 217,238 kg of garbage. Similarly, several voluntary organisations have carried out cleaning campaigns in the alpine slopes.</p> <p>The park administration in cooperation with the village development committees has banned bottled drinks in the park since August 1998.</p> <p>Species management:</p> <p>The wildlife population in the park has been effectively protected. The population of Himalayan tahr has been encouragingly increased in the 1990s. Based on Sagarmatha Forest Report of the Forest Institute, New Zealand, its population increased from 86 in 1992 to 190 in 1996. However, the figure dropped to 130 in 1999. The sightings of musk deer and red panda have been frequently reported. Also common leopard and clouded leopards are also found in the park. The wildlife population is distributed mostly in the lower elevations. Three individual musk deer have been captured and brought to wildlife research farm at Godawori, Lalitpur.</p> <p>The Sherpa community does not harm any wildlife due to their belief in Buddhism. A gang of over 2 dozens of poachers who killed over 35 musk deer by various techniques were finally arrested and sent to prison.</p>	1994-95	126,373	1995-96	189,824	1996-97	242,091	1997-98	209,488	
1994-95	126,373								
1995-96	189,824								
1996-97	242,091								
1997-98	209,488								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ownership</u> Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership: <p>The ultimate ownership of the property remains with His Majesty's Government of Nepal. However, individual families and monastery trusts owned the land and the forest in the settlement areas and monastery surroundings.</p> <p>The buffer zone policy adopted since 1993 and implemented since 1997 gives special rights to the buffer zone user committees/groups and the Buffer Zone Management Committee for the natural resources for management and utilisation.</p> <p>The airport at Lukla and the airstrip at Syangboche along with the facilities (such as communication tower) are under the management of the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal.</p>	042								
<p>Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:</p> <p>Park administration</p> <p>The Chief Warden administers the park with the 37 subordinate staff both technical and administrative. Regular and physical presence of the staff throughout the year in the park has been effective for prompt resolution of issues. The current following</p>	043								

II.4. continued

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<p>posts in the park are as follows (figures in parenthesis indicate persons on duty at present):</p>																			
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<p>Royal Nepal Army protection</p> <p>The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. The RNA has been in operation since the establishment of the park in 1976. Their strength was only 56 men in the beginning. In 1977, the RNA started its operation with full strength of 256 men. Under the command of a Major, they operate their activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority. The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been major contributing factors in the protection of the property (See box 029).</p>																			
<p>Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (√)</p>	044																		
<p>If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?</p> <p>Considering the challenges and issues such as expanding responsibilities of buffer zone management and the increasing activities of tourism/mountaineering, the office of the chief warden should be strengthened with additional personnel, such as one conservation officer, and fulfilment of all the staff in the field (See box #037).</p>	045																		

<p>Does the staff need additional training?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p>	046
<p>If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?</p> <p>The followings are the training needs at present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community development and conservation awareness</i> (to respond the needs of the buffer zone user committees/groups and the Management Committee. The training components should include the topics like community forestry, forest survey and mapping and user group mobilisation.) • <i>Information technology</i> (to enhance the planning, monitoring, reporting system of the park. The DNPWC has developed a digital system of monitoring, however, the field staff in SNP need orientation training to cope with the technology.) • <i>Tourism/Mountaineering policy</i> (Tourism/mountaineering is the major source of income from the park, although DNPWC collects the park entry fees only. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Mountaineering Association collect mountaineering fees.) • <i>World Heritage Site Management</i> (The park staff need orientation on how to manage world heritage sites. They also need to enhance their capacity on proposal/report writing.) 	047

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:

His Majesty's Government is the main source of funding for the regular administration and protection of the park. The fiscal year 2002-03 budget is Rs5.15 million. The only regular source of funding was the government. The five year picture of government budget, expenditure and revenue is as follows (Rs in millions):

Year	1999-2000	1999-98	1998-97	1997-96	1995-94
Budget	4.00	3.81	3.51	3.17	3.67
Expenditure	3.71	3.46	3.32	2.60	3.64
Revenue	12.58	4.09	2.49	0.40	2.03

(US\$ 1 = Rs 77.75 on December 27, 2002)

The expenditure of the Royal Nepal Army in the protected areas is Rs420 million in 2002-03. The portion of the budget for the SNP is approximately 6% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure for the SNP in the year 1999-2000 was approximately Rs22 million. Details of RNA budget are as follows:

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
RNA total	420.00	300.00	311.00	311.00
SNP	24.71	17.65	18.29	18.29

With the declaration of the buffer zone, the park administration has received funding from WWF to launch the Sagarmatha Community Agroforestry Project in the Pharak area. Earlier to January 1, 2002, the WWF supported project was implemented under the aegis of the Department of Forests.

Under the recently signed project on the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes (TRPAP # NEP – 99/013), DNPWC will receive a total of US\$1.24 million for 5 years (2002-2007). The UNDP, SNV-Nepal and United Kingdom's DFID Nepal are the supporters of the project that has a goal to produce and implement management plans for the SNP and its buffer zone and also to build capacity of park authorities and buffer zone communities (See box # 039).

The Himalayan Trust, SPCC and the Tengboche monastery mobilise their resources received from various donors (individual, corporate and government) in forest management, forest nursery and tree plantation, education, infrastructure, garbage management and other activities as indicated in their agreements with their donors. However, their work plans are prepared and finalised upon consultation with the stakeholders including park authorities as well as the local communities. Sir Edmund Hillary has been the major driving force for the fund raising programs of the Himalayan Trust. Its major funding sources include the New Zealand, American Himalayan Foundation and others.

Similarly, the SPCC's major funding sources has been His Majesty's Government of Nepal and WWF. Under the policy of recycling peak fees generated from the Khumbu region, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has been providing the SPCC with approximately Rs2.5 million per year since 1993. WWF provided matching grants to SPCC. To implement the SPCC operational plan, a tripartite was signed in 1993 between the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (then without the portfolio of Culture), WWF and SPCC. The Himalayan Adventure Trust of Japan has separately provided support to SPCC for apple tree plantation and garbage incineration at Lukla.

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	<p>Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / NO (✓)</p> <p>If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property: In the recent years, the government funding has been limited to the subsistence level to cover the staff salary and allowances, and limited expenses for office management.</p> <p>The park administration needs additional funding for the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research/monitoring on biodiversity • Infrastructure development such as guard post building construction and maintenance, communication facilities • Public awareness • Library development • Staff training • Monastery preservation 	<p>049</p> <p>050</p>
	<p>Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited:</p> <p>At present, the park has received financial funds from the following sources</p> <p>World Heritage Fund: for the improvement of a visitor centre at Mendalphu, Namche (park headquarters)</p>	<p>051</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO International Campaign: NA • National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies: UNDP/SNV/DFID: Ministry of Finance and UNDP signed an agreement for the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program (TRPAP # NEP – 99/013). MFSC and MoCTCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding, and DNPWC and MoCTCA signed a Letter of Agreement to implement the project (2002 – 2007). <p>UNDP/GEF: Strategic framework of SNP in 1999 ADB provided funding amounting to Rs 2,644,289 for the period 1992-1995.</p>	<p>052</p> <p>053</p>

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II.4. continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral co-operation: NA • Other assistance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF: agroforestry, alternate energy, conservation awareness • WWF/HAT-J/SPCC: garbage management, conservation awareness, apple tree promotion • Himalayan Trust/New Zealand Government/American Himalayan Foundation: forest management, education, health, infrastructure • Eco Himal: micro hydropower 	054 055
	<p>Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:</p> <p>The park office is equipped with a computer, but it is broken down. The facility has been limited to wordprocessing, spreadsheet and powerpoint presentation.</p> <p>Are you using (multiple indications are possible):</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PC (✓) Apple () Mainframe ()</p> <p>Please, give the number of available computers:</p> <p>One set without a printer</p> <p>Does an operational access to the Internet exist?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (✓)</p> <p>Due to unavailability of telephone system, the intranet/internet and email are not in operation.</p>	056 057 058 059
	<p>Is e-mail used for daily correspondence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (✓)</p>	060
	<p>Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?</p> <p>ARCVIEW 3.1 has been installed in the DNPWC headquarters</p>	061 062
	<p>List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:</p> <p>Basnet, K. (1993) Solid Waste Pollution versus Sustainable Development in High Mountain Environment: A Case study of Sagarmatha National park of Khumbu Region, Nepal. Journal of Center for Nepal and Asian Studies. Kathmandu: Tribhuvan University, Nepal.</p> <p>Bauer, K (1995). Sagarmatha Community Agroforestry Project – Operational plan. Kathmandu: WWF Nepal Program, Nepal</p> <p>Brower, B. (1991). Sherpa of Khumbu: People, Livestock, and landscape. Bombay: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>CEE. (1999). The Energy Assessment Study of Sagarmatha National Park and Chaurikharka VDC (Pharak) Area. Kathmandu: WWF Nepal Program.</p>	063

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<p>Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:</p> <p>Park staff members are primarily assigned for management. They assist researchers in field works. The government finding does not cover for research works. The research works have been either incorporated into the projects or the researchers have independently received grants to do their works.</p> <p>Describe how the information / results are disseminated?</p> <p>The research works are mostly published in the forms of books, reports or articles. The park administration also conveys the findings in public consultation meetings. The park administration, the SPCC and the Tengboche monastery have displayed research findings in the visitor centres.</p> <p>In regards to the mountaineering expeditions, the liaison officer communicates the news with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation for release in the</p>	<p>064</p> <p>065</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>media. MFSC and the MoCTCA have spokespersons at the ministry level to deliver the news and findings.</p> <p>The DNPWC, MFSC, Nepal Tourism Board, SPCC, IUCN, WWF, Nepal Heritage Society and other partner organisations have published their newsletters to highlight the WHS values of SNP. They also produce annual reports and other publications that carry research findings.</p> <p>Websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park information is housed in the DNPWC's website: www.dnpwc.gov.np • The activities of Himalayan Trust are housed in the website: www.himalayan-trust.org • There are other websites that highlight the WHS values of the park, such as www.welcomenepal.com. 																																																													
<p>Are there any visitor statistics for the site?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please summarise the statistics and attach to this report:</p> <p>The statistics reveal that the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 25,900 within a period of 3 decades between 1971-72 and 2000-01. The decreasing trend in the period from the year 2001 has been attributed mainly to the global turmoil like the World Trade Centre's Twin Towers incidents of September 11, 2001 and the Afghanistan war. The domestic troubles of Maoists insurgents have been another factor that affected the drop in the visitor number.</p>	<p>066</p> <p>067</p>																																																												
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1971-72</td> <td>1,406</td> <td>1985-86</td> <td>6,906</td> <td>1994-95</td> <td>14,151</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1973-74</td> <td>3,503</td> <td>1986-87</td> <td>9,117</td> <td>1995-96</td> <td>15,971</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1975-76</td> <td>4,254</td> <td>1987-88</td> <td>8,430</td> <td>1996-97</td> <td>17,412</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1979-80</td> <td>4,348</td> <td>1988-89</td> <td>7,963</td> <td>1997-98</td> <td>18,511</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1980-81</td> <td>5,052</td> <td>1989-90</td> <td>7,954</td> <td>1998-99</td> <td>22,176</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1981-82</td> <td>4,117</td> <td>1990-91</td> <td>10,343</td> <td>1999-2000</td> <td>25,875</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1982-83</td> <td>5,667</td> <td>1991-92</td> <td>10,110</td> <td>2000-01</td> <td>25,925</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1983-84</td> <td>5,103</td> <td>1992-93</td> <td>12,124</td> <td>2001-02</td> <td>19,678</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1984-85</td> <td>5,840</td> <td>1993-94</td> <td>12,824</td> <td>2002 (Jan-Dec)</td> <td>14,000*</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">*estimated</p>	Year	Visitors	Year	Visitors	Year	Visitors	1971-72	1,406	1985-86	6,906	1994-95	14,151	1973-74	3,503	1986-87	9,117	1995-96	15,971	1975-76	4,254	1987-88	8,430	1996-97	17,412	1979-80	4,348	1988-89	7,963	1997-98	18,511	1980-81	5,052	1989-90	7,954	1998-99	22,176	1981-82	4,117	1990-91	10,343	1999-2000	25,875	1982-83	5,667	1991-92	10,110	2000-01	25,925	1983-84	5,103	1992-93	12,124	2001-02	19,678	1984-85	5,840	1993-94	12,824	2002 (Jan-Dec)	14,000*	
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II.4. continued

<p>What visitor facilities do you have at the property?</p> <p>The learning and recreational facilities within the park are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Items</th> <th>Organisation</th> <th>Capacity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lukla</td> <td>information/souvenir</td> <td>SPCC</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monjo</td> <td>information</td> <td>SNP</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Namche bazar</td> <td>information/souvenir</td> <td>SPCC</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Namche Mandalphu</td> <td>information</td> <td>SNP</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tengboche</td> <td>information/souvenir</td> <td>the monastery</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The monasteries in the area offer facilities of visitors to pay homage and gather information about the local culture. There is also a privately run Sherpa cultural museum at Mendalphu, Namche.</p> <p>There is a STOL (Short Take Off and Landing) airport at Lukla that accommodates small aircrafts like Twin Otters. Built in 1964, the airport is linked with Kathmandu and Phaplu. The airport facilities have been improved such as asphaltting the runway and apron, equipping with the communication system, and building the departure and arrival lounges. The improvement works were completed in October 2001. The airport capacity is 5 small aircrafts at a time. There are seven airlines operating in Lukla, with their 18 aircrafts with a total capacity of 233 passengers.</p> <p>The Syangboche airstrip above the Namche bazar on the way to Khumjung is good for a small aircraft like Pilatus Porter. However, the airstrip is not in operation at present, since there is no such aircraft in the country at present.</p> <p>In 1996, there were 240 lodges (143 in SNP and 97 in Pharak). In 2002, the number has increased to 380 (150 in Khumjung VDC, 80 in Namche VDC and 150 in Chaurikharka VDC). Almost all the local Sherpa houses are converted into lodges/houses for the visitors.</p>	Location	Items	Organisation	Capacity	Lukla	information/souvenir	SPCC	100	Monjo	information	SNP	50	Namche bazar	information/souvenir	SPCC	100	Namche Mandalphu	information	SNP	200	Tengboche	information/souvenir	the monastery	100	068
Location	Items	Organisation	Capacity																						
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Namche Mandalphu	information	SNP	200																						
Tengboche	information/souvenir	the monastery	100																						
<p>What visitor facilities are you in need of?</p> <p>DNPWC has considered following facilities to be developed/improved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving telephone facilities compatible for information technology • Maintenance of trails and bridges in the park • Signs and promotional materials to protect the WHS value 	069																								
<p>Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO(√)</p>	070																								
<p>If YES, please summarise, if NO explain if one is needed:</p> <p>The 1981 management plan has been the basis of tourism management in the park. In 1993, SPCC with the cooperation of DNPWC, MoCTCA and WWF prepared and subsequently implemented a five year plan (1993-98) for promoting tourism related activities as well as garbage management.</p> <p>The comprehensive tourism plan will now be prepared under the TRPAP, a project being supported by UNDP, SNV and DFID. DNPWC and MoCTCA signed a Letter of Agreement to implement the TRPAP component of preparing implementing</p>	071																								

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Management and Tourism Plan for the SNP and its buffer zone (See box #039).

The three outputs and their relevant activities are planned as follows:

Output 1. Revision of the SNP and Buffer Zone Management Plan, and Preparation of Tourism Plan (US\$280,500)

- Executive Committee Formation (Year 1)
- Stakeholders consultations (Year 1 - 5)
- Develop database on cultural and environment (Year 2 and 5)
- Prepare Issues report (Year 2)
- Corporate Plan to assess management plan effectiveness and encourage investment (Year 2)
- Review and amend the plans (Year 2)
- Tourism research and opportunity studies (Year 2)
- Preparation of waste management strategy (Year 2)
- Conduct Initial Environmental Examination (Year 3)
- Draft Management and Tourism Plans (Year 3)
- Submission for government approval (Year 3)
- Coordination workshops between SNP and District Development Committee (Year 1 – 5)
- Social mobilisation and awareness raising (Year 1 – 5)
- Scientific research on biodiversity (Year 4)

Output 2. Capacity enhancement /building (US\$340,500)

- Training needs assessment of SNP staff and local communities (Year 1 and 2)
- Training manuals and curricula (Year 2)
- Training packages (Year 3)
- Training in waste management for user groups and committees (Year 2, 3 and 4)
- Training in buffer zone management and ecotourism (including study tours) (Year 2, 3, 4 and 5)
- Incountry study tours for stakeholders in ecotourism and sustainable tourism management (Year 2, 3, 4 and 5)
- Training for SNP staff and local authorities in ecotourism and sustainable tourism management (Year 2, 3 and 4)
- Workshops and interaction programs among partner organisations at national and district levels (Year 2, 3, 4 and 5)
- Training for local communities in enterprise and income generation (Year 2, 3 and 4)
- Training in management of visitors information centres and interactive skills (Year 2, 3 and 4)
- Overseas exchange tours on ecotourism (Year 2, 3 and 4)
- Publication of conservation education materials (Year 2 – 5)

Output 3. Implementation of the approved management/tourism plans for the park

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	<p>and buffer zone (US\$331,356)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot testing of management and tourism plans (Year 3, 4 and 5) • Establish visitor information centre (Year 2) • Community identified infrastructures (Year 2, 3, 4 and 5) • Waste management infrastructures in 3 VDCs (Year 2 and 4) • Alternate energy schemes (Year 2, 3 and 4) • Sustainable tourism village fund (Venture Capital Fund) (Year 2) 	
	<p>Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):</p> <p>The park administration has used public meetings and gatherings for communicating the World Heritage Site values of the park. Reciprocally, the local residents and the representatives of the buffer zone expressed that they used to receive the WHS message from the park authorities during the meetings, workshops and training programs. The public awareness on the values was enhanced when the Syangboche airstrip was planned for extension.</p> <p>For the general public, the DNPWC had developed a website www.dnpwc.gov.np that disseminates the WHS message.</p> <p>DNPWC and the MFSC releases news on the current issues and activities in the park.</p> <p>The park administration invites journalists to visit the park as well as to attend special ceremonies.</p> <p>The park has utilised the following newsletters to disseminate the WHS message:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Samrakshan Samachar</i> bi-monthly newsletter in Nepali published by DNPWC since 1980 • <i>Wildlife Nepal</i> bi-monthly newsletter in English published by DNPWC since 1988 <p>DNPWC also publishes park brochures on an annual basis.</p> <p>Nepal Tourism Board promotes the SNP as a WHS through its promotional materials such as posters, booklets, CD roms, websites, films etc. As communicated by the tourism entrepreneurs who are operating business in Khumbu carry WHS messages in their promotional materials.</p>	072
	<p>Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p> <p>If yes, please describe:</p> <p>The park administration has been working with the SPCC and HT and the local youth clubs to promote environmental education in the schools within the buffer zone. Schools have formed eco clubs as part of their extracurricular. The SPCC has also prepared an environmental education manual for the teachers in the Solukhumbu district.</p> <p>The park administration annually organises several awareness programs involving schools. They are Wildlife Week in the second week of April, World Environment</p>	073 074

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	<p>Day on June 5, World Wetland Day, World Biodiversity Day, and other national and local events. The park administration invites students to participate in various contests such as quiz, essay writing, art drawing and other activities.</p>	
	<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p> <p>As discussed with the tourism entrepreneurs and the buffer zone user committee/groups representatives, recognising the park as WHS has positively affected in the promotion of tourism business. The increasing number of visitors is the result of publicity of the positive image of the park.</p> <p>In response to the WHS values, two prominent conservation organisations are actively involved, namely the SPCC and the Himalayan Trust. Both the organisations have extensive awareness programs with a message of WHS values. They involve school students and teachers, as well as the local community leaders for that purpose.</p> <p>The representatives of the buffer zone user committees/groups and the Management Committee have expressed their concerns that the park and the buffer zone should be protected from the “development” activities that would destroy its WHS value. Such expressions are prominently visible when they protested against the proposed plan of extending the Syangboche airstrip.</p>	075

II.5. Factors affecting the property

	<p>Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.</p> <p>Development pressure Syangboche airstrip</p> <p>The major development pressure faced by the park in the recent years was the proposed extension of the Syangboche airstrip. The plan was to extend the inclined current airstrip, 400 m long east-west, on both sides till 630 m and the approach path has to be re-aligned to take into account prevailing wind. The project of expanding the airstrip has been suspended following a strong physical protest by the local people from the Namche-Mojno-Lukla corridor protested the plan in the first week of June 2002.</p> <p>Buildings</p> <p>It has also been observed that the number of buildings especially for the purpose of hotel/lodges has grown up. Once a smaller village has turned out to be a town with the increasing number of buildings, such as Phakding, Monjo, Lukla etc. As suggested by the local people themselves, it is essential to formulate a code of conducts for the buildings to protect the WHS values.</p> <p>Environmental pressure Garbage issue</p> <p>Garbage is the number one environmental pressure in the park and buffer zone. In</p>	076
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the early 1990s, there were several news articles defaming the park that the Khumbu region was the “highest trash pit” in the world, or “you could follow tin cans and toilet papers and reach the top of the mountain!” Shocked by the news, His Holiness Rimpoche of Tengboche, Ngawang Tenzing Jangpo, took initiative of mobilising the local people to clean up their backyards. The initiative gave birth to the organisation, Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) in 1991.

During the 3 years period from 1994-95 to 1997-98, the SPCC managed 767,776kg of garbage as follows:

1994-95	126,373
1995-96	189,824
1996-97	242,091
1997-98	209,488

Amount of garbage collection has increased over the years. In 2000-01 alone, the committee collected 217,238 kg of garbage. The figures indicate that garbage deposits in the region have also increased. The buffer zone residents suggest that the garbage management should be directly under the park administration.

Natural disasters

The 'glacier lake outburst floods' popularly known with its acronym GLOF has been a major natural phenomenon in the Khumbu region. There were sketchy records of GLOF dating back to 450 years. However, its hazards became more evident in 1985. The Dig Tsho GLOF which burst on August 4, 1985 damaged the Namche Hydropwer Sation, and also left a trail of destruction by sweeping away bridges, trails, cultivated land, houses, livestock as well as humans. The impact was felt up to 90km downstream in various rivers. The ecologic incident was also known as the Khumbu catastrophe.

As of 1995, there were 15 major GLOFs that had occurred mostly in the eastern Nepal Himalaya where rainfall is high. The Inkhu Khola GLOF that burst on September 3, 1998 was also a catastrophe in the park.

Fire hazards

During the dry season (March April May) prior to the monsoon rain, fire is a major problem in the park. Similarly, there was a fire accident that engulfed the entire building of the Tengboche monastery in 1990. The accident occurred due to short circuit of the electrical appliances.

Visitor / tourism pressure

The statistics reveal that the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 25,900 within a period of 3 decades between 1971-72 and 2000-01 (See box #067). Along with the tourists, the number of their porters grew accordingly. In 2000-01, the number of tourists was 25,925, whereas that of porters was 21,136. The number of permits for trekking peaks and trekking climbers and expeditions are also quite significant. During the period of six years between 1991-1997, a total of 2,153 permits were issued for trekking peaks. Altogether 10,435 climbers climbed the trekking peaks during the period (1991-97). A total of 281 permits were issued to mountaineering expeditions climb major peaks.

Year	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Trekking	308	332	259	375	432	447

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	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Climbers</td> <td>1,707</td> <td>1,733</td> <td>1,840</td> <td>2,193</td> <td>2,351</td> <td>2,451</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expeditions</td> <td>58</td> <td>53</td> <td>51</td> <td>40</td> <td>25</td> <td>54</td> </tr> </table> <p>Since May 29, 1953 when Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa climbed the Sagarmatha (Mount Everest), over 1,250 persons from 61 countries have climbed the peak at least 1,740 times. Although the park administration does not issue any of these permits, the fragile alpine environment in the park is under heavy pressure. Sir Edmund Hillary expressed that Sagarmatha should be given rest for a few years. His Holiness Rinpoche of Tengboche opines that the <i>Mother of the Universe</i> would feel good relaxation only when both the countries (Nepal and China) agree on the matter.</p> <p>Population pressure</p> <p>There are 63 villages and small settlements with 3,217 population dominated by the Sherpas. In the Pharak area, the number of main villages is 21 with a total population of 3,951. Thus, the total population in the park and the buffer zone is 7,168. In the recent years, there are several families who have migrated to the area for business. Similarly, the increasing business has also involved porters carrying market goods. In 2000-01, the number of market porters was 12,755, which is nearly a double of the existing population (7,168). During consultation meetings, the buffer zone user committees/groups and Management Committee representatives have suggested that population control should also be a priority task of park and buffer zone management.</p>	Climbers	1,707	1,733	1,840	2,193	2,351	2,451	Expeditions	58	53	51	40	25	54	
Climbers	1,707	1,733	1,840	2,193	2,351	2,451										
Expeditions	58	53	51	40	25	54										
	<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (√)</p> <p>If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:</p> <p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:</p> <p>Although there is no risk management scheme for the park. There has been a practice that park staff, RNA protection guards and local people join together to control fire hazards. With the declaration of a buffer zone, the local people feel much empowered for the protection of both natural and cultural heritage in the park. For example, they have already raised voice against the expansion of the Syangboche airport. The government policy has always been to promote tourism, trekking and mountaineering in the Khumbu region or in the Sagarmatha National Park. An optimistic observation is the increasing level of awareness among the local people on the management of tourism, trekking and mountaineering so that there will be minimal impacts. People have gradually switched into hydropower such as Peltric sets of 1 or 2 kilowatts, started using solar power and so on. A striking example presented by the Khumjung buffer zone user committee was to install an electric incinerator to burn the corpse so that firewood/trees would be saved. The users in Phakding immediately welcomed the idea.</p>	<p>077</p> <p>078</p> <p>079</p>														

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.5. continued

<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>The followings are the areas where improvement would be desirable:</p> <p>Park specific regulations On top of the NPWC Act 1973 and its 4 amendments, the Himalayan National Park Regulations 1979 and environmental policy, the DNPWC should formulate specific park regulations for the Sagarmatha National Park. There are specific regulations for the other parks like Royal Chivun and Royal Bardia. Such park specific regulations should spell out policies and code conducts on infrastructures like Syangboche airstrip, private and other buildings.</p> <p>Similarly, the regulations should also address other issues like garbage management, use of park resources including water for hydropowers (private and community owned), registration of trekking/mountaineering permits and herbal farming. It is equally important to consider the WHS value while introducing modern technologies like electricity, telephone, satellite antennae etc. The destruction of the Tengboche monastery by electrical fire can be a lesson to learn. Similarly, underground electrical wiring laid down for electricity in Namche is a good example for the other settlements to follow.</p> <p>Research coordination Considering the fragility of the environment of the park and buffer zone is prone to various natural disasters like GLOF and forest fire, the DNPWC should develop a protocol of research works that would help protect the WHS values of the park and buffer zone. Already the DNPWC and the RONAST (Royal Nepal Academy of Sciences and Technology) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to give continuity of the high altitude research station popularly known as "Pyramid" at Lobuche. Similar coordinated approaches should be considered with the other partners like Nepal Mountaineering Association.</p> <p>Recycling Peak Royalty The Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) issues climbing permits for 135 peaks known as mountaineering peaks, and the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) for 18 smaller peaks, known as trekking peaks (5,587 to 6,654 m in altitude).</p> <p>MoCTCA charges a royalty (climbing fee) ranging from US\$ 1,500 to US\$ 10,000 (depending on the altitude of the peak) and US\$ 50,000 for a group of seven persons. An additional US\$ 20,000 is charged for a normal south east ridge route on Sagarmatha peak. An additional US\$ 200 to US\$ 1,500 per person (US\$ 10,000 per person on Sagarmatha) will be charged if the group exceeds seven persons. The NMA charges trekking peaks, a royalty of \$US 300 or US\$ 150 for a period of one month for a group of up to 10 persons. NMA charges an additional amount of US\$ 7.50 per person if the group exceeds 10 persons.</p> <p>As per the tourism/mountaineering policy, His Majesty's Government of Nepal will recycle up to 40% of the peak fees collected from the Khumbu region for the</p>	<p>11</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p>environmental conservation of the same region. Under the policy His Majesty's Government of Nepal has been providing the SPCC with approximately Rs2.5 million per year since 1993. WWF provided matching grants to SPCC.</p> <p>Realising the necessity of environmental conservation in the Khumbu region, DNPWC will develop a peak fees utilisation mechanism in the forthcoming management plans.</p>	
	<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <p>As indicated above there is an indication that the impacts of the factors affecting the property are increasing (See Box #076).</p> <p>Development pressure</p> <p>Syangboche airstrip</p> <p>Following the changes in government, the proposed project of expanding the Syangboche airstrip has been stopped at present. The helicopter service at Syangboche has also been suspended since November 2001 following the imposition of the state of emergency in the country. So the impacts of these projects at present have ceased to exist.</p> <p>Buildings</p> <p>There is an increasing trend of constructing new buildings in the Lukla, Phakding and Monjo corridor. Small villages have turned out to be a small town with the increasing number of buildings.</p> <p>Environmental pressure</p> <p>Garbage issue</p> <p>In spite of continuous works of SPCC in garbage management, the statistics reveal that there is an increasing trend in garbage production. For example, SPCC collected 126,373 kg in 1994-95, and 217,238 kg of garbage in 2000-01.</p> <p>Natural disasters</p> <p>Although a scientific research has yet be conducted on the GLOF, it has been noticed that there is an increasing incidents of GLOF and receding glaciers in Khumbu. The conservationists and environmentalists fear that the phenomena are the results of global warming and climate change.</p> <p>Visitor / tourism pressure</p> <p>As mentioned above the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 25,900 within a period of 3 decades between 1971-72 and 2000-01 (See box #067). Along with the tourists, the number of their porters also grew accordingly. In 2000-01, the number of tourists was 25,925, whereas that of porters was 21,136. Similarly, the number of permits for trekking peaks and trekking climbers and expeditions are also quite significant. During the period of six years between 1991-1997, a total of 2,153 permits were issued for trekking peaks and were climbed by 10,435 climbers.</p> <p>Population pressure</p> <p>The 1979 population living within the park was approximately 3500. Currently, the</p>	081

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>population is only 3,217 spread in the 63 villages and small settlements dominated by the Sherpas. In the Pharak area, the number of main villages is 21 with a total population of 3,951. Thus, the total population in the park and the buffer zone is 7,168. In the recent years, there are several families who have migrated to the area for business.</p> <p>With the increase in the number of trekking groups and mountaineering expeditions, the number of porters is also increasing. As mentioned above, in 2000-01, the number of market porters was 12,755, which is nearly a double of the existing population (7,168).</p>	
<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p> <p>Along with the preparation and implementation of management plans for the park and the buffer zone, the following activities will be undertaken:</p> <p>Development pressure</p> <p>Syangboche airstrip</p> <p>DNPWC has seriously considered that the excavated works in the airstrip has already damaged the environment of the fragile ecosystem. Rehabilitation works of the excavated parts will be undertaken with arrangements of compensation from the MoCTCA. At the same time necessary actions will be taken to remove the heavy equipment from the site.</p> <p>Buildings</p> <p>Based on the 6 years field study between 1974 and 1979, DNPWC has documented architecture in the national parks of Nepal in 1980 for consideration when new buildings are designed. The document outlined comparative advantages of local architects in terms of availability of materials, adaptability to environment, and uniqueness of cultural heritage.</p> <p>Realising the growing number of houses that do not reflect local indigenous architecture, DNPWC has considered review of the above mentioned document with a view to maintain WHS values. Buffer zone user committees/groups, a buffer zone management committee and the Village Development Committees will be considered during the process of review and development of the architect codes.</p> <p>Environmental pressure</p> <p>Garbage issue</p> <p>Realising the garbage issue in the park and the buffer zone, DNPWC will formulate garbage management strategy as mentioned in the management plan (See box #071). As per the tourism policy, the government ploughs back up to 40% of the peak fees generated from a region for environmental management of the region itself. MoCTCA has been providing funds to the SPCC for garbage management activities (See box # 048). DNPWC will further explore on recycling of peak fees collected within the park.</p> <p>Natural disasters</p> <p>DNPWC and RONAST have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to give</p>	082

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>continuity of the high altitude environment on December 25, 2001.</p> <p>Visitor / tourism pressure</p> <p>The park administration will continue to maintain statistics reveal of visitors in the park. The DNPWC is in the process of implementing the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Project in cooperation with the MoCTCA (See <i>box #071</i>).</p> <p>Population pressure</p> <p>The park administration and the buffer zone communities will implement public awareness campaign. The issue is more on the management of the temporary population of tourists, mountaineers and porters.</p>	
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II.6. Monitoring

<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p> <p>DNPWC with the cooperation of MFSC and WWF developed success indicators for the protected areas of Nepal. Indicators were developed through a series of exercises in the field and centre. The indicators for the Himalayan park like Sagarmatha include key indicators species such as musk deer, Himalayan tahr, birds along with other items.</p>	083
<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please give details of its organisation:</p> <p>The Monitoring and Evaluation Division of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation is the focal body that facilitates monitoring of departments and the protected areas. The format contains indicators, unit, progress of the previous year, progress of the current year, increase or decrease and justifications. The park administration submits a monitoring report in a given format to the DNPWC where the formats are compiled from all the protected areas to be sent to the MFSC.</p> <p>The format contains the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat Management: water holes, grassland, fire line, forest road, seedling production/distribution, wetland) • Endangered Species Conservation (musk deer, snow leopard, red panda, <i>Danphe</i> pheasant) • Conservation Education (programs, participants) • Buffer Zone Management (area, population benefited, forest handed over, programs) • Tourists arrival (Nepalese, SAARC countries, other foreigners) • Royalty (entry fee) 	084 085

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.6. continued

<p>If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO (✓)</p> <p>If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090):</p> <p>Not applicable (See box # 085)</p>	<p>086</p> <p>087</p>
<p>Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property? (✓) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:</p> <p>The recent monitoring format as developed by MFSC/DNPWC contains the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat Management: water holes, grassland, fire line, forest road, seedling production/distribution, wetland) • Endangered Species Conservation (musk deer, snow leopard, red panda, <i>Danphe</i> pheasant) • Conservation Education (programs, participants) • Buffer Zone Management (area, population benefited, forest handed over, programs) • Tourists arrival (Nepalese, SAARC countries, other foreigners) • Royalty (entry fee) <p>If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:</p> <p>Not applicable (see box #089)</p>	<p>088</p> <p>089</p> <p>090</p>
<p>Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:</p> <p>The main partner who will be involved in monitoring are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffer Zone Management Committee • District Development Committee of Solukhumbu • Eco Himal • Himalayan Trust • IUCN • MoCTCA • Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee • UNDP/SNV/DFID • Village Development Committees (Chaurikharka, Khumjung and Namche) • WWF 	<p>091</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.6. continued

<p>Identify the administrative provisions for organising the regular monitoring of the property:</p> <p>The guard posts under the park administration collect information on their daily patrols. They submit their daily log records to their respective rangers in charge. The rangers then submit the reports to the Chief Warden who compiles all the reports submit to the DNPWC. The DNPWC compiles all the reports from all the protected areas, and send them to MFSC. DNPWC also prepares and disseminates annual reports.</p>	092
<p>Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:</p> <p>The Management Information System need to be improved by installing equipment at the park headquarters. The field staff members need hands on training on data gathering and filling up the monitoring formats.</p>	093
<p>In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:</p> <p>The DNPWC will make sure that its instructions to the park administration for publicising the WHS emblems and message through appropriate media at sites. The park administration will arrange for adopting the emblem in the park sing boards, carrying the WHS messages in the promotional materials.</p> <p>The DNPWC and the park administration have considered the cases of Syangboche airstrip.</p> <p>The park administration has enforced underground wiring for electrification in Namche.</p>	094

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):</p> <p>The Sagarmatha National Park (1,148 square kilometer) meets the criteria iii for the World heritage natural properties. The park has superlative natural phenomena of exceptional natural beauty with the highest mountain peak, the Sagarmatha (8,848m). It also satisfies the criteria where natural and cultural elements are found in exceptional combination.</p> <p>A buffer zone (275 square kilometer) was extended with a gazette notification in January 2002. The Makalu Barun National Park and buffer zone (park 1500 sq km and buffer zone 830 sq km) was established in 1991, and serves as an extension of the SNP to its eastern boundary as a potential area for WHS extension for the biodiversity richness.</p> <p>The major issues include unplanned growth in the number of visitors and</p>	095
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<p>mountaineers and their guides and porters is the major issue that need to be addressed while undertaking management of the park and buffer zone. The proposed expansion of the Syangboche airstrip has been cancelled at the moment. The park administration is only informed of the mountaineering expeditions, the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Mountaineering Association control/regulate them.</p>	
<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <p>His Majesty the King Gyanendra (then His Royal Highness Prince) announced the decision to establish the park at the World Congress of the World Wildlife Fund at Bonn in October 1973.</p> <p><i>“We sincerely believe that this region and its surroundings in the grandeur of the Khumbu Valley are of significance not only to us but the whole world as an ecological, cultural and geographical treasure which, we hope, should provide peace and tranquility and be a significant contribution to a better World Heritage.”</i></p> <p>- His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah, Bonn, 5th October 1973.</p> <p>Under the NPWC Act 1973 and its subsequent amendments, the park office has been established in Namche. It has a network of 9 guard posts (4 under park administration, 3 under park administration and RNA, 2 under RNA). At present, all the posts under RNA are consolidated into one post at park headquarters, Namche.</p> <p>It is suggested that the Act and regulations should be reviewed to address the issues of mountaineering, airstrip expansion, hotel/lodges and hydropower developments; and also promote the traditional system of <i>Shingo Ngawa</i>.</p> <p>The main Acts and Regulations pertinent to SNP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments • Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 • Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 • Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999 <p>The two main revisions to be made in the administrative and management for the property are strengthening the park office, and involving the park administration in development and tourism/mountaineering activities.</p> <p>The TRPAP component of SNP contains outlines of three outputs during the 5 years period (2002 - 2007), such as follows :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revision of the SNP and Buffer Zone Management Plan, and Preparation of Tourism Plan (consultation with stakeholders, scientific research, review, Initial Environmental Examination etc.) US\$280,500 2. Capacity enhancement /building (needs assessment, manual/curricula, overseas exchange, educational materials, visitor information centre etc.) 	096

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

US\$340,500

3. Implementation of the approved management/tourism plans for the park and buffer zone (pilot activities, visitor information centre, infrastructures, waste management, alternate energy, "Sustainable Tourism Village Fund" etc.)
US\$331,356

The total budget is 1.24 million for the activities to get the outputs and the program support.

Conservation status

The buffer zone implementation since January 2002 was the major intervention to protect the core area of the park through community based natural resource management in the periphery. The park administration is fully operational with a senior conservation officer as a chief warden. Regular presence of the park staff has helped manage the park, although not all the posts were filled up. The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters.

The Himalayan Trust (HT), founded in 1960, operates three nurseries at Phorche, Tashinga and Phurte to meet its target of planting 70,000 saplings a year. The trust nurture almost 100,000 trees each year. It has already planted more than 1 million tree saplings in the Sagarmatha National Park. A remarkable step taken in favour of forest conservation was the eradication of goats from the park in 1980s.

The Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) is a local nongovernment organisation established in 1991 with an objective to manage garbage in the Khumbu region. The committee has managed 767,776kg of garbage during the period from 1994-95 to 1997-98. In 2000-01 alone, the committee collected 217,238 kg of garbage. Similarly, several voluntary organisations have carried out cleaning campaigns in the alpine slopes. The park administration in cooperation with the village development committees has banned bottled drinks in the park since August 1998.

The wildlife population in the park has been effectively protected. The populations of Himalayan tahr, musk deer and other species have been encouragingly increased in the 1990s. Some individual musk deer have been captured and brought to wildlife research centre at Godawori, Lalitpur.

The ultimate ownership of the property remains with His Majesty's Government of Nepal. However, individual families and monastery trusts owned the land the forest in the settlement areas and monastery surroundings.

The training needs of the park administration are in the field of Community development and conservation awareness, Information technology, Tourism/Mountaineering policy, and World Heritage Site Management.

During the last 25 years, nearly 20 major research works have been undertaken in

various field like wildlife, forestry, anthropology, high altitude environment etc.

The number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 25,900 within a period of 3 decades between 1971-72 and 2000-01. The decreasing trend in the period from the year 2001 has been attributed mainly to the global turmoil like the Twin Tower incidents of September 11, 2001 and the Afghanistan war. The domestic troubles of Maoists insurgents have been another factor that affected the drop in the visitor number.

In response to the WHS values, two prominent conservation organisations are actively involved, namely the Himalayan Trust and the SPCC. Both the organisations have extensive awareness programs with a message of WHS values. They involve school students and teachers, as well as the local community leaders in their activities.

Pressures

The major development pressure faced by the park in the recent years was the proposed extension of the Syangboche airstrip (from the existing 400 m to 630 m). Garbage is a number one environmental pressure in the park and buffer zone. During the 3 years period from 1994-95 to 1997-98, the SPCC managed 767,776kg of garbage. In 2000-01 alone, the committee collected 217,238 kg of garbage. The 'glacier lake outburst floods' popularly known with its acronym GLOF has been a major natural phenomenon in the Khumbu region. The Dig Tsho GLOF which burst on August 4, 1985 damaged the Namche Hydropower Sation, and also left a trail of destruction by sweeping away bridges, trails, cultivated land, houses, livestock as well as humans. As of 1995, there were 15 major GLOFs that had occurred mostly in the eastern Nepal Himalaya where rainfall is high. The Inkhu Khola GLOF that burst on September 3, 1998 was also a catastrophe in the park.

Visitor

The number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 25,900 within a period of 3 decades between 1971-72 and 2000-01. Along with the tourists, the number of their porters also grew accordingly. In 2000-01, the number of tourists was 25,925, whereas that of porters was 21,136. Similarly, the number of permits for trekking peaks and trekking climbers and expeditions are also quite significant. During the period of six years between 1991-1997, a total of 2,153 permits were issued for trekking peaks and were climbed by 10,435 climbers. Similarly, a total of 281 permits were issued to mountaineering expeditions climb major peaks.

The two major areas where improvement would be desirable are:

1. Park specific regulations to address the issues of tourism, trekking, mountaineering and hydropower.
2. Research coordination to help protect the WHS values
3. Sharing of peak royalties for buffer zone management

II.7. continued

<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>Apart from developing and implementing management plans for the park and the buffer zone, the following activities will be undertaken:</p> <p>Development pressure Syangboche airstrip The DNPWC will rehabilitate the excavated part with the compensation from MoCTCA.</p> <p>Buildings DNPWC with the cooperation of the local community representatives will review the architecture documents for the national park to help protect the WHS values.</p> <p>Environmental pressure Garbage issue DNPWC will prepare waste management strategy. The garbage management program will be continued by recycling the mountaineering fee in the Khumbu region. As per the tourism policy, the government will plough back up to 40% of the peak fees generated from a region for environmental management of the region itself. This is also applied to Khumbu region or the park area.</p> <p>Natural disasters DNPWC and RONAST have signed on December 25, 2001 a Memorandum of Understanding to give continuity of the high altitude environment.</p> <p>Visitor / tourism pressure The park administration will continue to maintain statistics reveal of visitors in the park. The DNPWC is in the process of implementing the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Project in cooperation with the MoCTCA.</p> <p>Population pressure The park administration and the buffer zone communities will implement public awareness campaign. The issue is more on the management of the temporary population of tourists, mountaineers and porters.</p>	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005): Organisation(s) / entity(ies): (Same as in box #005)</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): Sagarmatha National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: Mr Kamal Jung Kunwar, Acting Chief Warden, SNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, DNPWC</p>	098

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<p>Address: DNPWC, Babar Mahal</p> <p>City and post code: GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</p> <p>Telephone: ++ 977 1 220912</p> <p>Fax: ++ 977 1 227675</p> <p>E-mail: dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</p>	
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>The work plans of the buffer zone user committees/groups is for the period of five years.</p> <p>The buffer zone management plan is also for 5 years.</p>	099
<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>The International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund and the other donors will be needed in the following activities in the park and the buffer zone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park administration strengthening • Conservation education • Cultural Heritage Conservation • Research and Development • Monitoring and Evaluation 	100
<p>Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p>	101
<p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>The Royal Chitwan National Park is another WHS inscribed in 1984. The Sagarmatha comes under the jurisdiction of the DNPWC as well.</p> <p>The other WHS in the country are Lumbini (the birthplace of Lord Buddha), and the Kathmandu valley with its seven major cultural properties namely three ancient palaces of Hanuman dhoka of Kathmandu, Layaku of Bhaktapur and Mangal bazar of Lalitpur, and four religious shrines namely Changunarayan, Pashupatinath, Boudhnath, and Swoyambhunath. All the cultural heritage sites are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Archaeology.</p>	102
<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p> <p>The exercise is extremely fruitful in terms self assessment for the park administration, buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs</p>	103

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>and the individuals who are involved in the conservation of the property. The process has created another public interest in favour of the property's WH value, realisation of the need for a code of conducts, and further commitments for conservation and protection.</p>	
	<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): Sagarmatha National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: Mr Kamal Jung Kunwar, Chief Warden, SNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, DNPWC</p> <p>Address: DNPDC, Babar Mahal</p> <p>City and post code: GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</p> <p>Telephone: ++ 977 1 220912</p> <p>Fax: ++ 977 1 227675</p> <p>E-mail: dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</p>	104

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

	<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Yes, sufficient information was made available to the authorities. Several public consultation meetings were held to gather public voice and their sentiments.</p>	105
	<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>The questionnaires are completely different from the regular reporting format in use at the MFSC/DNPWC. The persons who are involved in filling up the questionnaires need to spend considerable amount of time to extract information from various documents/sources to fit in the boxes.</p>	106
	<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?</p> <p>As indicated in the box #103, the exercise yielded awareness and commitments that are more than the outputs expected from the questionnaires. The exercise brought the park administration closer with the buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs and the individuals. It helped stakeholders carry out informal self-assessment in respect to the property.</p>	107
	<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>The major expectations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity of capacity building of the stakeholders for the protection of the WH value of the park • Establishment of physical facilities like computer and intranet system for regular monitoring 	108

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement of information dissemination including visitors centre, website linkage, publications, school programs | |
|--|--|

II.9. Documentation attached

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.

1. Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)
2. Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property
3. Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)
4. Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)
5. Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings
6. Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels
7. Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)
8. Indicative bibliography

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).