



Training and Exposure Visit Programme on Skill and Capacity Building for Improved Tourism Services: Process and Outcome

Under Khangchendzonga Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KLCDI)- India



G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development
Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang
Post Box: 24, Gangtok - 737 101 (Sikkim), India

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G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development
Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Post Box: 24,
Gangtok - 737 101 (Sikkim), India

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International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal

Programme Coordinator: KLCDI

Dr. Nakul Chettri
ICIMOD, Kathmandu , Nepal

National Coordinator: KLCDI-India

Er. Kireet Kumar (Since October 2017)
Director In-charge

Dr. P. P. Dhyani (Upto September 2017)
Director (Former)
GBPNIHESD, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263643 Uttarakhand, India

Nodal Person/Scientist: KLCDI-India

Dr. Mithilesh Singh (Since October 2017)
Scientist C & Scientist In-charge

Dr. Kailash S. Gaira (May 2017-September 2017)
Scientist E (March 2016-September 2017)

Dr. H. K. Badola (upto April 2017)
Scientist F & Scientist In-charge (Former)
GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok – 737101 (Sikkim), India

Contributors

Dr. Kailash S. Gaira, Mr. Jhony Lepcha, Ms. Sheila Sinha, Mr. Bijoy Chhetri, Mr. Renzino Lepcha, Mr. Kinzong Bhutia, Dr. Nakul Chettri, Ms. Tshering U. Bhutia, Dr. Santosh Chhetri, Mr. Ugen P. Lepcha, Mr. Pradipto Roy, Dr. Ravindra Joshi, Mr. Pema G. Bhutia, Dr. Ghanashyam Sharma, Dr. Mithilesh Singh, Dr. R. S. Rawal and Dr. P. P. Dhyani

Compiled by

Kailash S. Gaira, Jhony Lepcha, Sheila Sinha, Bijoy Chhetri, Renzino Lepcha, Mithilesh Singh and Nakul Chettri

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G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development
Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang
Post Box: 24, Gangtok - 737 101 (Sikkim), India





गो. ब. पंत हिमालयी पर्यावरण एवं सतत् विकास संस्थान
कोसी-कटारमल, अल्मोडा, उत्तराखण्ड, भारत
**G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and
Sustainable Development**
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand, India



Preface

Khangchendzonga Landscape is one of the seven transboundary landscapes identified by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal, in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan Region, which shares boundaries among three neighbouring nations Bhutan, India and Nepal. The region not only harbors rich biological diversity of the Eastern Himalayan range but also supports the inter-dependent ecosystems.

In India, the KLCDI programme with the objective that the Khangchendzonga landscape should continue to be celebrated by the communities living in the landscape through equitable access and conservation of natural resources, by way of conserving and developing the biological, social and cultural entities”, which has now been implemented by involving multi-stakeholders faculties.

The “*Training and Exposure Visit Programme on Skill and Capacity Building for Improved Tourism Services*”, undertaken as an initiative for capacity building of the people of the Landscape during the implementation phase of the programme, is documented here. The document is not only focused towards the procedure and outcomes of the ecotourism training, but also helps identify the basic tools and techniques that need to be incorporated in developing sustainable ecotourism in any region. This document will help to promote and improve ecotourism services in the KL-India by highlighting various bio-cultural and livelihood linkages that influence the livelihood scenario. It will also act as a skill and capacity building material for developing ecotourism-based entrepreneurship in the KL and other parts of the Himalaya. I believe this publication would serve as a guiding source for ecotourism service providers, tourist management personnel, researchers including all other concerned stakeholders in IHR.

Er. Kireet Kumar
Director-in-charge
G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and
Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD)



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We thank Dr. David J. Molden, Director General, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal for providing the financial support to execute the KLCDI programme in India, and for publishing this manual under implementation phase. We acknowledge Dr. Eklabya Sharma (Director Programme Operations) at ICIMOD, Nepal, who has been very motivating and a guiding force behind every step of the KLCDI programme in India. We appreciate the encouragement we received from Shri B.M.S. Rathore, Chief Policy Advisor, ICIMOD, Nepal.

We are indebted to the tourism department, Secretary for his constants support and cooperation. We highly appreciate the support and cooperation of the Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department (FEWMD), Government of Sikkim and Directorate of Forest (DoF), Government of West Bengal to KLCDI programme in India.



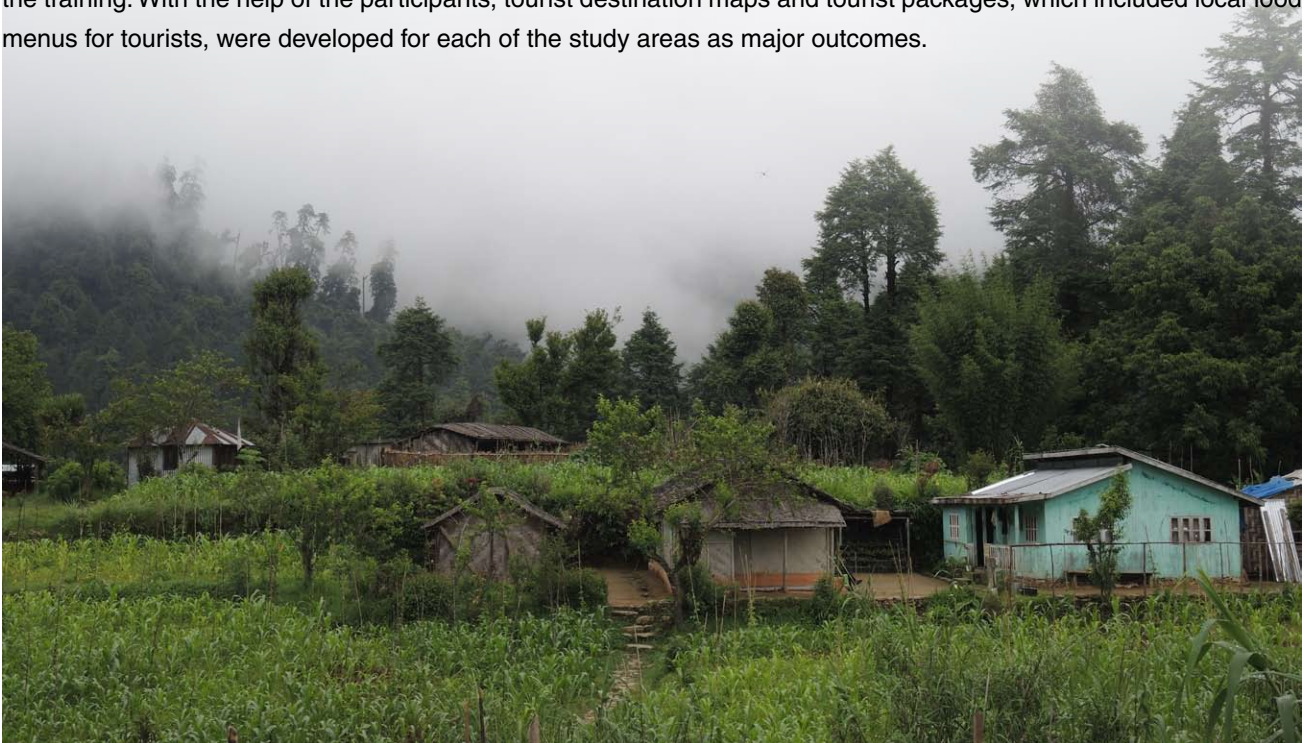
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SUMMARY

A five-day training-cum-exposure visit was organized under the 'Implementation' phase of the KLCDI-India programme. The programme aimed to improve tourism services in the three pilot sites (Bandapani, Barsey-Singalila, and Dzongu) of the Khangchendzonga Landscape (KL) in India. Ten participants each from the four different study areas (Bandapani, Gorkhey–Samanden, Ribdi-Bhareng, and Dzongu) of the three pilot sites were identified according to predefined criteria. The programme covered various themes under ecotourism development, and experts from various fields related to ecotourism shared their knowledge and experience. Hence the programme was aimed at providing basic knowledge and training to the participants in every sphere for successful ecotourism development in the respective pilot sites. The experts from various fields bolstered their discussions with practical demonstrations and on-site visits. An additional purpose of organising this training at Yuksam, in collaboration with the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC), was to strengthen the training with an exposure visit to the site. The classroom lesson for accumulating basic knowledge about ecotourism and its different wings, accompanied by practical demonstration involving the participants, and coupled with exposure visits, resulted in a power packed learning-cum-training session. The experts on ecotourism related activities included bird and butterfly experts, experts on waste management, and on camping and hiking who introduced the participants to every aspects of ecotourism.

From the four study areas of the three pilot sites, 25 men and 15 women participated in the programme. Pre and post-assessment of the participants' knowledge of various aspects of ecotourism development such as: i) Tourism and its Attraction Systems, ii) Components of Community-Based Tourism (CBT) iii) Handling Visitors and Complaints, iv) Attributes of Service Staff, v) Understanding your Visitors, vi) Interpretation in Ecotourism and vii) Village Homestay Concept and its Operation was undertaken. From the pre-training assessment, it was understood that the most of the participants had limited knowledge about the topics. The post-training assessment, however, indicated that most of the participants had gained better knowledge of the various aspects of ecotourism services and management after the training. With the help of the participants, tourist destination maps and tourist packages, which included local food menus for tourists, were developed for each of the study areas as major outcomes.



Chapter 1

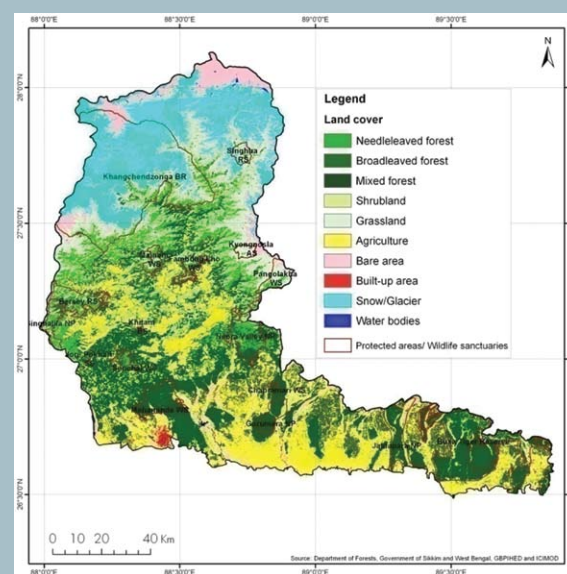
BACKGROUND

The KLCDI programme intends to contribute to the sustainable development of the Khangchendzonga Landscape (KL)-India, through resource management and strengthening of livelihood initiatives. During the Addendum phase of this programme, information related to the socio-economy of the region and the various resources of the site were collected and analysed. As a result of year-long field visits, surveys and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) etc., it was found that the decreasing livelihood options of the people in the region and their increasing dependency on the forest resources could be compensated by the development of ecotourism in the region. In this context, the Implementation plan, as agreed in 2017, for the Indian part of KL-India is targeted to enhance livelihood and nature conservation through improving ecotourism services in three pilot sites.

Hence, under the Implementation phase of the KLCDI-India programme, a training-cum-exposure visit for the community people of each site was included as an output for the programme in order to develop tourism in the three selected pilot sites. In this context, a five-day long training-cum-exposure visit was organized for skill and capacity building of the locals in the pilot areas of Bandapani, Barsey-Singalila, and Dzongu on ecotourism practice and development. The programme was organized by GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Unit in collaboration with the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC), Yuksam; The Mountain Institute (TMI), India, Gangtok; Mutanchi Lom Aal Shezum (MLAS), Dzongu and Himalayan Nature and Adventure Foundation (HNAF), Siliguri; supported by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal. Ten participants from each of the four different study areas of the three pilot sites were identified according to predefined criteria. The programme covered various themes under ecotourism and experts from related fields shared their knowledge and experience during the programme. This basic orientation programme was focused on enhancing the skill and capacity of the local people in the field of tourism services while promoting ecotourism as a sustainable livelihood option, alongside the conservation of nature.

Box 1: Khangchendzonga Landscape (KL)-India

The Khangchendzonga Landscape (KL) located in the eastern Himalaya, is a part of global biodiversity hotspot, representing unique biodiversity, bio-cultural and geo-climatic assemblage. It covers a total area of 25,085.8 km², shared by India (56%), Bhutan (23%), and Nepal (21%), offering life support systems to over 7.25 million people (87% in India, 11% in Nepal and 2% in Bhutan). KL-India, covers a total area of 14,061.7 km² along the altitudinal gradient (40 m to 8586 m asl), comprising the state of Sikkim, and northern part of West Bengal (four districts, viz. Alipurduar, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Kalimpong recently bifurcated from Darjeeling district). KL India is located along 26°29'13.56" to 28°7'51.6" latitudes and 87°59'1.32" to 89°53'42.96" longitudes and provides varied ecosystem and ecosystem services for sustenance and wellbeing of people including rich floral diversity (more than 5500 sp.) and the fauna taxa (over 1500 in record). Besides, the assemblage of socio-economic and cultural diversity binding further adds up to the significance of the region.



Chapter 2

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the training and exposure visit was to strengthen the participants' knowledge and to provide them with practical experience on tourism services and management at the local level. The main aspects covered under the event were:

- I. Basic concept of community-based tourism.
- II. Orientation for service providers i.e. hospitality, homestays, sanitation/ hygiene, guides/ porters, cooks, etc.
- III. Capacity building on the management of tourism services like homestays, ecotourism, socio-cultural events and solid waste management.
- IV. Orientation on nature and its significance for livelihood.
- V. Orientation on marketing and networking.



TRAINING STRUCTURE AND CRITERIA

Focusing on proper management and empowering local people with skills for improving ecotourism services, this training-cum-exposure visit was conducted in Yuksam, Sikkim, in collaboration with the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC). The identified venue, Yuksam, is already well known for its development in the field of community-based tourism and has gained much fame for its ecotourism management and services, both nationally and internationally. An exposure visit to this region was thought to be the best step possible to mobilise the people and develop an interest in this cause among the participants.

3.1 Participants' Selection

The programme aimed to include at least ten individuals each from the four study areas of the three sites. These participants were selected based on their willingness to learn, while keeping the following criteria devised by the organizing committee flexible.

3.1.1 Criteria for Selecting the Participants

- I. A maximum of ten participants (five women and five men) from each of the study areas (ten from Bandapani, ten from Gorkhey–Samanden, ten from Ribdi-Bhareng and ten from Dzongu) were identified.
- II. Single participation from one household i.e. not more than one participant per household was preferred.
- III. Preferred young people with some educational qualifications.
- IV. Ecotourism/ homestay owners (one from each homestay that is already established or in the process).
- V. For guides – preferred people with an interest in or knowledge of the biodiversity resources of the region.
- VI. Preferred local people (barring government employees) who have a leaning towards ecotourism.

3.1.2 Training Proceedings

The programme was expected to cover various aspects of ecotourism to give the participants a basic knowledge regarding the normal functioning of ecotourism in their respective regions. The expected outcomes included:

- At least 40 participants trained in homestay management or as tourist guides, porters, service providers for sanitation/ hygiene, hospitality, local food/ beverages, etc.
- Improved understanding of sustainable community-based tourism.
- Empowering participants to promote/ manage tourism or ecotourism at the local level as an alternative livelihood.
- Strengthening of community-based tourism services in the three pilot sites.

TRAINING SESSIONS: PROCESS AND OUTCOME

4.1 Day One: 19 September 2017

Interaction

At around 04:30pm, in the hall of the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC), Yuksam, all the participants and resource people were gathered. An introduction and ice-breaking session for the participants and resource persons was conducted where the vision, rules and regulations of the training-cum-exposure visit were shared. Dr. Nakul Chettri, Mr. Renzino Lepcha, Mr. Pema G. Bhutia and Dr. Kailash S. Gaira, interacted with the participants and motivated them to actively participate in the event.

A 'welcome dinner' was also organised at the KCC Interpretation Centre for all the participants, resource people and the organizing team. This dinner aimed to connect the participants and resource persons and pave the way for an easy interaction between them in the subsequent training days.

4.2 Day Two: 20 September 2017

After a warm welcome by Mr. Jhony Lepcha, Senior Field Researcher; Mr. Renzino Lepcha, Ecotourism Specialist from Gangtok, presented an overview of the training, highlighting the various themes of ecotourism that would be covered during the sessions. The expectations of the participants from the training and the norms of the training programme were also discussed.

About KLCDI-India and its current status

The session was extended by Dr. Kailash S. Gaira, Nodal Person: KLCDI-India, who presented the aim of KLCDI-India as "the natural and cultural heritage of Khangchendzonga Landscape which should continue to be celebrated by the communities living in the landscape through equitable access and conservation of resources" and shared information regarding the current status of the KLCDI-India programme. He shed light upon the activities undertaken under the themes of livelihood improvement, ecosystem management and long-term monitoring in the Implementation phase for the first year. He also underlined the importance of this event for improving the livelihood of the community viz-a-viz biodiversity conservation. Highlighting the progress of KLCDI-India and its future initiatives, Dr Gaira encouraged the participants to engage seriously in the event.



The KLCDI Programme and Landscape Ecotourism Opportunity

Dr. Nakul Chettri, Programme Coordinator, KLCDI talked about the journey of the KLCDI programme since its formation to the present status. He also highlighted the major themes of the programme such as livelihood diversification and

poverty alleviation, ecosystem management, resource governance and benefit sharing, long-term environment and socio-ecological monitoring, regional cooperation, enabling policy and knowledge management. He elaborated on the various opportunities in Khangchendzonga Landscape (KL) that aid in the development of the region as an ecotourism destination, which can lead to the increased livelihood of the people of the various regions. He pointed out the rich natural and cultural assets of the landscape and the value of the local resources. He encouraged the participants to be self-reliant through ecotourism in their respective sites and to conserve their natural resources and culture for sustainable tourism.



Talk on landscape ecotourism opportunities

Introduction to Ecotourism

Mr. Renzino Lepcha presented an introductory class on ecotourism, clearing its concept and highlighting its importance and future perspective with respect to the tourism and livelihood of the region. He covered the major themes of ecotourism such as its components, visitor and host interaction, etc. A video clip of successful community-based ecotourism initiatives was also played in order to encourage and involve the participants in tourism.

Ecotourism comprises various features such as: the destinations - that include natural areas rich in biodiversity; the attractions – which may be natural or man-made spots that attract tourists to the region; economic impacts; the environment; target markets and education.



Introductory session on ecotourism

Mr. Lepcha concluded by emphasising that any ecotourism destination must have the following characteristics in its package for the visitors:

- Travel to natural areas.
- Minimal adverse impact on the ecosystem.
- Help build environmental awareness.
- Provide financial benefits for conservation and empowerment of local community.
- Respect local culture.
- Support involvement of local community people in decision making.
- Educate visitors and hosts.
- Provide an authentic experience for the visitors.
- Conserve the natural and cultural resources.

Overview of Ecotourism Development in Yuksam and Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP)

The next session was conducted by Mr. Pema G. Bhutia who emphasised the importance of community involvement and dedication in the successful development of ecotourism. He narrated how the formation of a functional and active ecotourism committee, Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC), became very successful in developing ecotourism in Yuksam. He went on to emphasise how this committee could mobilise villagers, especially the tourism stakeholders of the area, and bring them together under a common understanding, which later helped to develop codes of conduct and rules and regulations for tourism operations in the area. He acknowledged the cooperation amongst the committee members and also among all the locals of the region because of which, the rules and regulations were properly followed and maintained. Skill improvement and basic training was given to all the service providers in order to form a strong base for the development of ecotourism in the region. KCC's journey from a humble beginning to its current stature was traced and a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the important issues of ecotourism in the region concluded the session.



Explaining the progressive ecotourism journey of KCC

4.3 Day Three: 21 September 2017

After a brief recapitulation of the previous day's session by Dr. Santosh Chettri, the programme was led by Mr. Renzino Lepcha.

Models of Ecotourism in India

Mr. Renzino Lepcha tried to clear the vision of the participants about ecotourism by explaining it through models of ecotourism selected from all over the world. A video presentation of these models was screened alongside explanations that taught the participants how community participation plays an important role in ecotourism development in any site. Next, he pointed out the importance of understanding the visitor and dealing with the various reasons a tourist usually visits a site. His intentions to visit the tourist spot, the peak time or the preferred seasons/ months of the year for his visit and the factors that motivate tourists to travel were discussed in detail. The participants learnt that the motivations can be many; including the scenic beauty of nature, cultural immersion, learning, academics and study, research, adventure, pilgrimage, business, visiting friends and relatives etc.



Sharing an example of community-based tourism through a video

Understanding Your Visitors

It is very important to understand visitors as per their homeland, their purpose of visit and their personal nature. There are various types of tourists and understanding the different types is vital. The ecotourism service providers need to be acquainted with some fundamental knowledge about the purpose of tourist visits and the motivations for tourists to travel.

- Background of tourists
- Age of the visitor
- Country or place of origin
- Spending power of the visitor
- The activities visitors undertake
- Ability to understand the local values
- Group size
- Duration of holiday
- Usage of travel type: car, local buses, etc
- Tour programme and flexibility of change at site
- Degree of ability to experience ethnic food

Having understood the above basic features of the tourist, the management and handling of the visitors can be done better manner and visitors' satisfaction is likely to remain high.

Community Participation in Strengthening Ecotourism: Tourism Assets Identification

The groups were mobilised further to appreciate their own region more as a tourism destination by making them list out the 'tourism assets' of their respective regions. The participants were asked to identify natural and man-made assets or values their respective regions have, that could be potential tourism attractions and were then encouraged to form tour packages that included those listed assets. This exercise aimed at opening up their mind to the future aspects of development and upgrading the ongoing trend of ecotourism in their region. The entire process saw enthusiastic participation from the members who were grouped according to their respective sites. The four groups were Gorkhey-Samanden and Ribdi-Bhareng from Barsey-Singalila site and one each from the Dzongu and Bandapani sites. The participants were guided by other experts and each of the groups successfully came up with a list of many such assets from their locality and surrounding regions. The selected assets included natural resources such as the flora and fauna, cultural and traditional customs, local food, trekking trails, etc. On the basis of these assets, tourism packages for each study area were developed (Table 1). Also, tourism destination maps were developed by the participants with the help of the resource persons (Figures 1 & 2). After the completion of this task, Mr Lepcha discussed the development of ecotourism activities around these identified assets.



Group exercise for identifying the potential tourism assets

Table 1.: Identified local tour packages by the respective participants from the four study areas of KL-India

Days	Bandapani	Gorkhey-Samanden	Ribdi-Bhareng	Dzongu (Lingdem-Lingthem)
Day 1	Exploring the wide varieties of flora and fauna; Cultural tour visiting the indigenous tribes; Visit to Deorali and tea gardens	Tour of the village surroundings of Gorkhey and Singalila National Park, including cultural shows; Horse riding	Explore the rural and cultural setup; Visit to Smriti Ban (medicinal plant conservation park); Monastery and Tanki dara	Explore the indigenous Lepcha community culture and tradition; Hotsprings
Day 2	Exploring Kali mandir; Gomtu monastery; Durpin dara and Gomtu cement factory along with the view of Dolomite mining	Trek to Gorkhey-Ribdi ecotrail and exploring the natural beauty and flora and fauna. Stay in Ribdi	Visit to Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary and Hilley and back	Visit to Songbing; Waterfalls and Monastery
Day 3	Trek to Kalapani and bird watching on the way and visit to Dumsi dara and view of Dolomite mining and siltation down the Bhutanese foothills	Visit Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary and Hilley and back	Trek to Gorkhey-Ribdi ecotrail and stay in Gorkhey	Visit to Mantam lake or river beach
Day 4	Buxa Tiger Reserve and night safari to Jaldapara National Park	Trek to Phalut. exploring nature trail and stay	Trek to Phalut exploring nature trail and stay	Trek to Tholung monastery and stay
Day 5	Visit Phuntsholing, Bhutan or trek to Gorumara National Park	Sunrise view at Phalut and view of the majestic Khangchendzonga and Mt. Everest in the same horizon, return to Gorkhey	Sunrise view at Phalut and view of the snow capped mountain ranges of Mt. Khangchendzonga and Mt. Everest and back to Ribdi-Bhareng or stay in Gorkhey and back to Ribdi-Bhareng on day 6	Back to Lingdem Further trek up to Kisong lake and stay, return on day 6 via Tholung

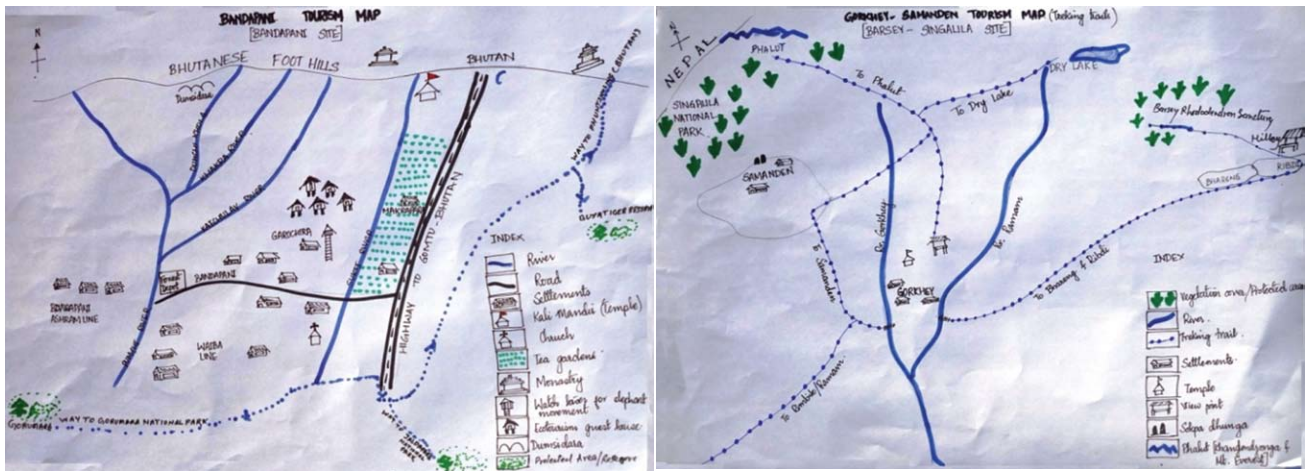


Figure 1: Tourism destination maps of Bandapani and Gorkhey-Samanden study areas

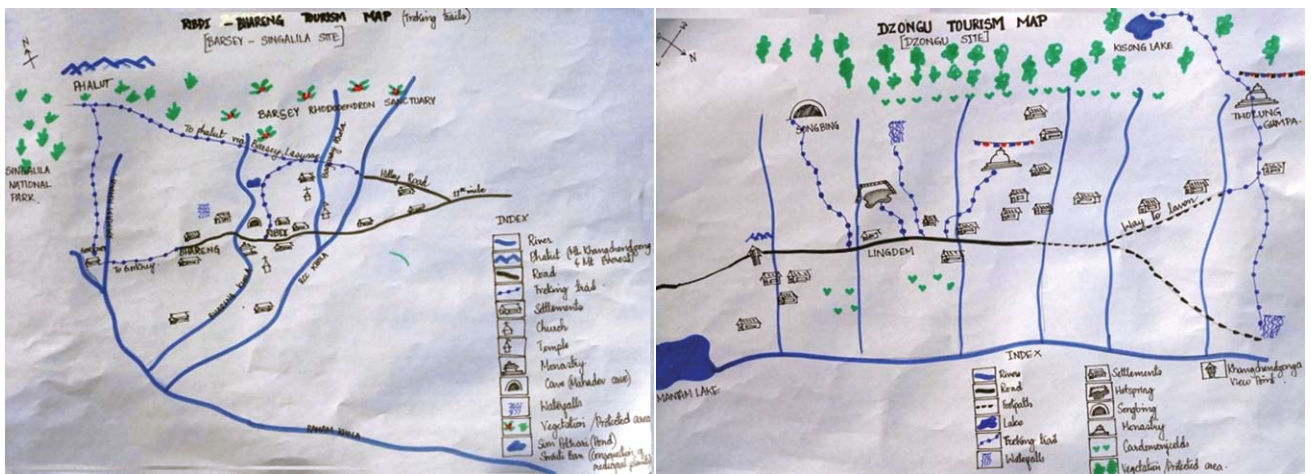


Figure 2.: Tourism destination maps for Ribdi-Bhareng and Dzongu study areas



Training on butterfly and bird watching

This session was deliberately designed towards strengthening the capacities of target community groups by way of providing exposure on other laterals of ecotourism, i.e. bird and butterfly watching. The invited resource person Dr. Ravindra Joshi, Field Coordinator-KSLCDI, from GBPNIHESD, Almora, deliberated through a picturesque presentation on the nitty-gritty of the bird and butterfly tourism viz. identification and selection of trail, mapping of different habitat types, identification of foraging, roosting and larval food resources of the targeted species, identification keys, methods and contemporary tools of survey,

importance of ecological notes and interpretation and other aspects of these activities. The session also touched upon the use and efficacy of some exciting mobile applications like Indian birds, Indian butterflies and HIMA for identification and data collection, and subsequently shared these with the participants. Concluding the session, Mr. Joshi emphasised the need to develop local-specific monthly and seasonal calendars depicting the temporal and spatial occurrence of foraging and visiting species. Acknowledging his efforts, the participants revealed that the session helped in inculcating in them a value for the rich treasure of their bio resources and unanimously agreed to explore other such areas to develop tourism. The day concluded with an outdoor trip for butterfly watch.

4.4 Day Four: 22 September 2017

Exposure Visit to a Tourist Destination

A short field trip was organized to Dubdi monastery for bird watching and exploring nature to train the participants on bird watching field techniques, the role of trekking guides, porters, cooks etc and provide them with awareness regarding the biodiversity of the area, while training them on how to handle tourists in the wilderness. The walk was of about 2 kms and the participants were accompanied by all the experts. During the walk, Dr. R. Joshi helped them to identify the local birds by their plumage and sounds. He further explained that the behaviour and habitat of the birds' species differ along the altitude. Such attributes are important to identify a particular species in the region because most of the species show their specific characteristics. Mr. Pema G. Bhutia also helped the participants in identifying the floral components during the hike.



Training for tourist guides

Mr. Kinzong Bhutia highlighted the basic role of a tourist guide and how responsible outdoor tourism practices are carried out. The participants were also taught about trail manners, how to avoid negatively impacting the outdoors, interpreting the natural areas to visitors and how guides can exhibit responsible practices for minimising outdoor negative impacts in the natural environment. The use of Apps to record the sightings of birds and vegetation was introduced to the participants. How media and digital applications find usage in tourism were also explained.

The group also observed and identified various butterflies with the help of experts. After the short trip, the session continued with a recapitulation of the previous day's work.

Solid Waste Management

Next, Ms. Tshering Uden Bhutia introduced the participants to 'Zero Waste Management' and the practices of the Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC) in Yuksam. She elaborated on the basic steps taken in the committee, and subsequently at the community level, to keep the area clean with zero waste. The practice of 'zero waste' was mainly adopted on the trekking routes inside the Khangchendzonga National Park, following the problems and concerns raised with the increasing garbage inside the Park along the trekking trails. She encouraged the participants to take initiatives for proper management of waste in their region which is a need for any tourism destination.

Community-Based Ecotourism Development

Mr. Renzino Lepcha elaborated on the important role of the community in ecotourism development through an ecotourism development wheel. He explained that the three components of ecotourism - i) Business, ii) Community and iii) Tourism assets were like the spokes of a wheel, where every spoke has equal responsibility and importance in developing an 'ecotourism wheel'. Through this pictorial representation, he impressed upon the participants that each spoke of the wheel needed to be strengthened so that community-based ecotourism becomes a reality in the pilot sites. The pictorial representation convinced the participants that the current sites need to work hard in many areas of tourism before they can start hosting visitors (Figure 3).



Figure 3.: Community-Based Ecotourism Development Wheel

Homestay Management and Hospitality

The session was followed by a lecture on ‘Homestay - menu planning and cooking’ by Ms. Tshering Uden Bhutia. In this session, she elaborated on the need to identify the visitors in the first case so as to serve the meal accordingly. After explaining the importance of serving traditional food to tourists, the participants were divided into four groups i.e. Bandapani, Gorkhey-Samanden, Ribdi-Bhareng and Dzongu and each group, with the help of resource persons, developed a traditional food menu to offer to tourists in their respective areas (Table 2).

Table 2.: Local food items identified for the tourists

Food items for tourists			
Sl. no.	Pilot village	Breakfast	Lunch & Dinner
1.	Bandapani	Chapati, Puri, Alu dum, Sel roti, Cow milk, Butter, Plain paratha, Alu paratha, Seasonal vegetables, Eggs	Rice, Roti, Local chicken curry, Alu dum, Egg curry, Vegetables, Dal, etc.
2.	Gorkhey-Samanden	Sukha roti, Puri, Sel roti, Alu dum, Cow milk, Local butter, Other seasonal vegetables, Local eggs omelet, etc.	Rice, Sukha roti, Marshyam dal, Sinkee, Gunduruk, Dalley achar, Churpi chatni/ jhol, Taba achar, and Other seasonal vegetables, Dal, Momo, etc.
3.	Ribdi- Bhareng	Sukha roti, Boiled local organic potatoes with achar, Cow milk, Local butter, Puri, Sel roti, Alu dum and Other seasonal vegetables, Local eggs	Wachipa, Bungchipa, Rice, Alu dum, Momo, Dalley achar, Churpi chatni/ jhol, Other local seasonal vegetables, Dal, etc.
4.	Dzongu	Khafsey, Zehro, Milk tea, Black tea, Cow milk, Local butter, Khuri (Lepcha vegetable roll) and Other organic vegetables, Local eggs	Rice, Sorong bee, Nongthuk mong khu, Momo, Local seasonal vegetables, Churpi achar/ jhol, Marsyam dal, etc.

Mr. Kinzong Bhutia elaborated on the basics of the promotion, marketing, and sales component of ecotourism, the role of the guides and the necessary attributes of service staff. Dr. Nakul Chhetri then discussed ‘interpretation’ and its role in ecotourism.

4.5 Day Five: 23 September 2017

Exposure Visit to Khangchendzonga National Park

Recapitulation of the previous day's sessions was done by the NGO team members and the day was dedicated to a 'nature walk and observation' to the entrance gate of the Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP). The participants explored the natural, cultural and traditional assets of the region and learned the role of the different stakeholders and communities, and their responsibilities towards these assets for management and conservation of ecotourism. On the return walk, the team visited the 'KCC Zero Waste Management Centre'. The various processes involved in recycling the wastes were demonstrated by Ms. Binita Subba, who does all the work related to segregation, washing/ cleaning and utilising the waste materials. The participants were made aware of the types of waste that increase with the development of ecotourism, its negative effects in society and the ways to recycle it.



Exposure visit to Khangchendzonga National Park

Interaction with ESPAY

After returning from the walk, an interaction between the members of ESPAY (Ecotourism Service Provider Association of Yuksam) and the participants was organized. ESPAY is the local committee of Ecotourism Service Providers from Yuksam, formed with the sole purpose of organizing the service providing; training guides, porters and cooks; and conducting tourism and ecotourism in Yuksam in a better organized manner. Seven people from ESPAY were in the training to share their experience of the process of ecotourism development in Yuksam. The ESPAY team accordingly described the state of tourism in the past and the problems that the people and the environment were facing because of its unorganized manner. They further narrated their journey of developing tourism in Yuksam to the present state. They shared that their determination, hard work, enthusiasm and teamwork were the main reason for their success. In the Question and Answer session that followed, the participants raised many questions leading to a healthy and interactive discussion.



Interaction with ESPAY members

Camping and Hiking Management

Up next, Mr. Kinzong Bhutia gave an outdoor session on camping and hiking. His session was dedicated to teach participants the role of the porter, guide and cook during an expedition in the high altitudinal sites. Different types of tents were shown and the way they are used during the expedition were elaborated in details



Demonstration of Campsite Management

4.6 Final Day: 24 September 2017

Practical Application at Pilot Sites: Participants' View

The practical application of the lessons learned so far was the important task of the day. Mr. Jhony Lepcha mobilised the group and encouraged them to come up with their own ideas according to their learning from the sessions. The different commitments that the participants of the respective groups made for the proper functioning of ecotourism in their respective regions can be listed out as follows:

Bandapani Group

The participants from Bandapani were focused on initiating village cleaning and waste management. They proposed to share the lessons that they have learned during the training with the other community members for better functioning of the existing ecotourism group of the region.

Gorkhey–Samanden Group

The participants from Gorkhey-Samanden committed to sharing the knowledge that they have gained during the training sessions with the other locals of their region to improve the functioning of the ecotourism group of their region. They felt the need to have an office for ecotourism where they could arrange regular meetings and take initiatives for activities related to the development of ecotourism in the village. They further showed their commitment in keeping their region clean by placing disposal bins and will further manage the cleanliness of the region.

Ribdi-Bhareng Group

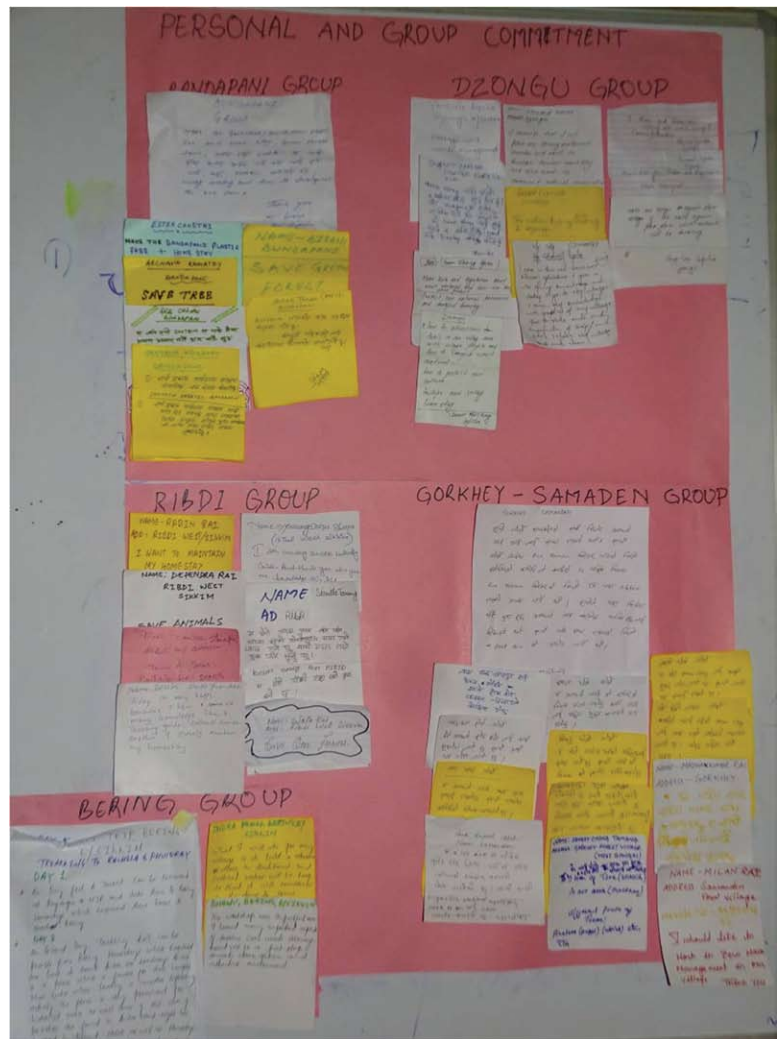
The participants from Ribdi-Bhareng were passionate about becoming guides for butterfly and bird watching. They assured that they will share the lessons they have learned with the people of their village. The participants were inspired by the management of ecotourism practices in Yuksam, and promised to form a better-organized and sustainable ecotourism committee in their own region and to develop tourism in a more organized way.

Dzongu Group

The participants assured that they will be involved in the proper management of the ecotourism committee and thereby will develop ecotourism in their region.

All the participants were also asked to note down their personal commitments for the sake of ecotourism development in their region. The commitments they made were noted down in cards for future reference. Apart from this, different single goals were made as a commitment by the participants of the respective groups for their region. This was done so as to ensure that the group that attended the training would take the first initiative in their respective regions towards the fulfillment of the sole goal of ecotourism development.

At the end, Mr. Jhony Lepcha thanked the experts, participants and all the people and organizations involved in the training. Dr. Kailash S. Gaira concluded the session with a brief recapitulation and assured the involvement of the KLCDI-India programme in the prospective development of ecotourism in the respective regions.



CONCLUSION

The output of the training and exposure visit programme for empowering skill and capacity of participants from the three pilot sites of Khangchendzonga Landscape in India is estimated on the basis of their knowledge upgradation. Through analysis of their pre-assessment forms, it was found that most of these topics were unknown for the participants and they did not have much information/ idea about them (Figure 4).

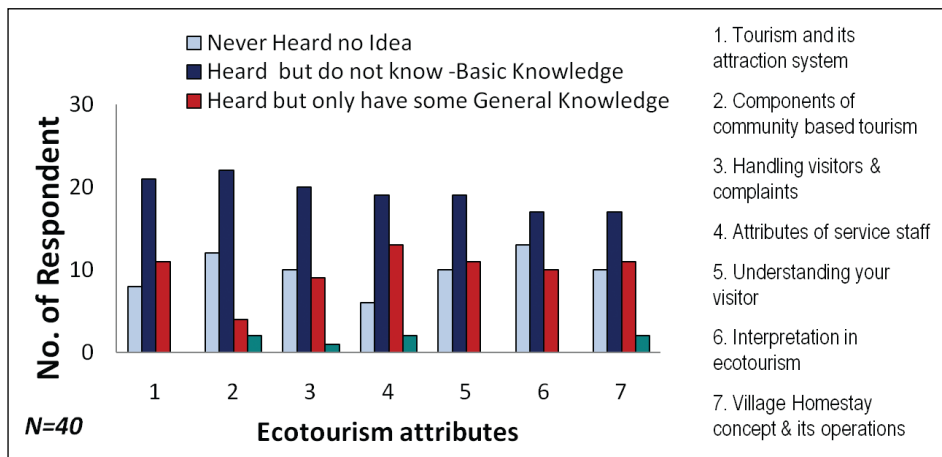


Figure 4: Pre-training assessment report of the training

The post-training evaluation was conducted at the end of the training, with the help of the assessment forms prepared. The participants were asked to: i) give their views regarding the training programme, and ii) fill the post-assessment form and give rankings to questions asked, according to their level of understanding of the different fields discussed and taught in the training. According to the post-assessment form, most of the participants were found to have better knowledge and confidence regarding these topics (Figure 5). On the basis of pre and post assessments, the training and exposure visit programme on skill and capacity building for improved tourism services indicated that the participants’ knowledge base on ecotourism had been upgraded.

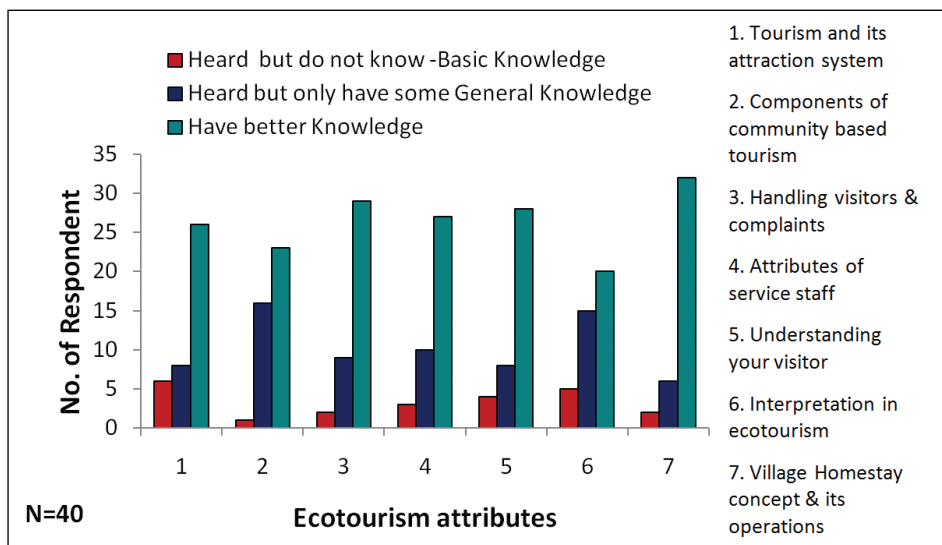


Figure 5: Post-training assessment report of the training

In addition, tour packages and tourist destination maps for each study area were developed during group exercises with the help of participants and resource persons. Traditional food based menus for tourists were also developed for each pilot area. Such outcomes of the programme will support and promote tourist destinations and traditional foods in each pilot area.

Hence, the event reflected not only the process of training and exposure visit on skill and capacity building for improved tourism services but also disseminated tourist packages, tourist destination maps and traditional food menus for each pilot area of KL-India. It is believed that the process and outcomes of the event will be a landmark for the KLCDI-India programme, especially for livelihood diversification and economic development objective and directly or indirectly support other objectives i.e. ecosystem management, long-term environmental and socio-ecological monitoring and regional cooperation. The process also, will support in line of existing policy and schemes for ecotourism promotion in KL India (Box-2)

Follow-up Actions

The training programme aims to promote, strengthen, and nourish healthy ecotourism in the villages. In a comparison between the pre and post-assessment of participants' knowledge in ecotourism, the overall result of the respondents was quite satisfactory and it seems from the responses of the participants, that the aim of the training was met.

During the training, the potential resources of the four villages such as natural, cultural and traditional assets were identified under the three pilot sites of the programme. According to the result of the group discussion, the identified spots from the pilot sites which are likely to be a potential tourist destination will be further evaluated under the KLCDI-India in later programmes. From the given lists, the potential ecotrails and spots will be further analysed and will be enlisted in the tourism map and the websites under the programme.

Box 2: Sikkim Ecotourism Policy, 2012

With an aim to not only to ensure sustainable livelihood of the local people but also to protect and manage natural integrity of beauty and its resources, as well the Government of Sikkim has launched State Ecotourism Policy in 2012 proactively. The main objectives of Sikkim Ecotourism Policy are as follows:

- Bring all stakeholders on a common platform of understanding of ecotourism
- Promote ecotourism in a sustainable manner based on the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria (GSTC)
- Generate incentives to local communities for nature conservation through alternative income sources and livelihood, and empower local communities to manage ecotourism with the emphasis on economically disadvantaged people
- Conserve the existing biodiversity, ecosystems and religious monuments of the state of Sikkim as well as Sikkim people's culture and tradition
- Offer memorable and high quality learning experience to visitors, thus encouraging their responsible behaviour during their visits and their collaboration for nature conservation efforts
- Facilitate local children as well as visitors' to enjoy and appreciate excellent nature-based activities
- Encourage people in Sikkim to increase their pride and appreciation of local natural and cultural values
- Ensure that local communities have a role in determining the appropriate presentation of their cultural values
- Regulate the high influx of visitors in heavily visited areas, thus reducing negative impacts of tourism

Chapter 6

ANNEXURE

Annex. 1: Programme Schedule PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Time	Event	Resource person
Day 1 (19.09.2017)		
02:00-04:00 PM	Arrival of Participants and check into Accommodation	
05:30-05:40 PM	Welcome Address	Mr. Jhony Lepcha
05:40-05:55 PM	Objectives of the Training Programme	Dr. Kailash S. Gaira
05:55-06:30 PM	Introduction of Participants & Overview of the Training Course Content and Flow	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
06:30-07:00 PM	Special remarks on KLCDI	Dr. Nakul Chettri
07:00-07:15 PM	Overview of KCC & Ecotourism Initiatives	Mr. P.G. Bhutia
07:15-07:25 PM	Logistic Announcements	Mr. Jhony Lepcha
07:30 PM	Welcome Dinner	
Day 2 (20.09.2017)		
09:00-09:30 AM	Registration of Participants	
09:30-09:45 AM	Pre-Training Self Assessment of Participants	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
09:45-09:55 AM	Expectations and Norms of the Training Programme	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
09:55-10:30 AM	Daily Feedback and Peer Feedback – Secret Friend	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
10:30-11:00 AM	KLCDI-India and its Current Status	Dr. Kailash S. Gaira
11:00-11:15 AM	Tea Break	
11:15-12:00 AM	KLCDI Programme & Landscape Ecotourism Opportunity	Dr. Nakul Chettri
12:00-12:30 PM	Tourism Attraction System	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
12:30-01:00 PM	Introduction to Ecotourism	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
GROUP PHOTO SESSION		
01:00-01:45 PM	Lunch break	
01:45-02:30 PM	Overview of Ecotourism Development in Yuksam and KNP	Mr. P.G. Bhutia
02:30-03:00 PM	Group Work on Listing the Natural & Cultural Attractions and Potential Tourism Activities at Pilot Sites	GBP/KCC/Partner NGOs
03:00-03:15 PM	Tea served in working groups	
03:15-04:00 PM	Presentation of Group Outputs – Ecotourism Highlights and Potential of Community Sites	GBP/KCC/Partner NGOs
04:00-04:30 PM	Components of Community-Based Ecotourism	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
04:30-04:45 PM	Participants' Feedback and Evaluation	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
Day 3 (21.09.2017)		
09:00-09:15 AM	Feedback and Tip of the Day	Facilitator
09:15-10:00 AM	Models of Ecotourism in India	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
10:00-11:00 AM	Understanding Your Visitor	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
11:00-11:15 AM	Tea Break	
11:15-12:00 AM	Group Exercise on What New Ecotourism Activities can be Developed in Participants' Areas	Dr. Nakul Chettri
12:00-01:00PM	Introduction to Bird Watching and Wildlife	Dr. R. Joshi
01:00-02:00PM	Lunch Break	
02:00-02:40PM	Handling Visitors and Complaints	Mr. Renzino Lepcha & Mr. Kinzong Bhutia
02:40-03:15PM	Arrival and Departure Visitor Briefings	Mr. Renzino Lepcha

03:15-03:30PM	Feedback and Evaluation	Partner NGOs
03:30-05:30PM	Hike to Dubdi Monastery and Bird watching	GBP/ KCC/Partner NGOs/ FEWMD
Day 4 (22.09.2017)		
07:00-08:00AM	Bird Watching (Outdoor Visit)	Dr. R. Joshi & Mr. Kinzong Bhutia
09:00-09:20AM	Feedback and Tip of the Day	Facilitator
	De-briefing on Bird Watching Exercise	Facilitator
09:20-10:00AM	Garbage and Waste Management	
Zero Waste Management	Ms Tshering Uden Bhutia	
10:00-11:00AM	Practical and Demo on Zero Waste Management System	Ms Tshering Uden Bhutia
11:00-11:15AM	Tea Break	
11:15-12:00AM	Homestay Concepts and Development	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
12:00-01:00PM	Menu Planning and Cooking	Ms. Tshering Uden Bhutia
01:00-02:00PM	Lunch break	
02:00-02:30PM	Ecotourism Development Wheel Exercise	Mr. Renzino Lepcha
02:30-03:15PM	Participants Work on Assessing the Ecotourism Wheel of their Ecotourism Pilot Sites –	GBP/ KCC/ Partner NGOs
Tea Served in Working Groups		
03:15-04:00PM	Role of a Guide and Attributes of Service Staff	Mr. Renzino Lepcha & Mr. Kinzong Bhutia
4:00-04:30PM	Role of Interpretation in Ecotourism	Dr. Nakul Chettri
04:30-04:45PM	Feedback and Evaluation of the Day's Training Session	Mr. Jhony Lepcha / Partner NGOs
Day 5 (23.09.2017)		
08:30AM-01:00PM	Khangchendzonga National Park: Nature Walk – Observe the Roles of Guides, Porters and other Tourism Service Providers	Ms Tshering Uden Bhutia & Dr. R. Joshi
01:00-02:00PM	Lunch break	
02:00-02:30PM	De-briefing Session on the Interpretation Walk into the Khangchendzonga National Park – UNESCO World Heritage Site	Ms Uden Bhutia / GBPNIHESD/ NGOs
02:30-03:15PM	Outdoor Safety and Campsite Management	Mr Kinzong Bhutia
03:15-03:30PM	Tea Break	
03:30-04:30PM	Interaction and Q & A Session with ESPAY (Ecotourism Service Providers Association of Yuskam)	ESPAY Members
04:30-04:45PM	Evaluation and Feedback	GBPNIHESD / Partner NGOs
Day 6 (24.09.2017)		
09:00-09:30AM	Feedback and Tip of the Day	Facilitator
09:30-10:15AM	Lessons Learnt and their Application at Pilot Site	Respective NGOs (TMI, MLAS & HNAF)
10:15-11:00AM	Peer Feedback & Post Training Evaluation	Mr. Jhony Lepcha
11:00-11:15AM	Tea Break	
11:15-11:30AM	Way Forward and Future Initiative	Dr. Kailash S. Gaira
11:30-12:00AM	Certificates & Vote of Thanks	Ms. Sheila Sinha
12:30-01:00PM	Lunch and Departure	

Annex. 2: List of Participants

S No.	Names	Address
1.	Ms Archana Kagatey	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
2.	Ms Srijana Kagatey	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
3.	Ms Rita Chhetri	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
4.	Ms Ester Chhetri	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
5.	Mr Bikash Kagatey	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
6.	Mr Santosh Kagatey	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
7.	Mr Ashok Kagatey	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
8.	Mr Biren Sharma	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
9.	Mr Bhanu Chhetri	Bandapani, Alipurduar, West Bengal
10.	Mr Saga Tshering Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
11.	Mr Sonam Tshering Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
12.	Mr Top Tshering Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
13.	Ms Anamit Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
14.	Mr Tshering Thendup Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
15.	Mr Lendup Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
16.	Mr Jorden Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
17.	Mr Sonam Tarchen Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
18.	Ms Khimo Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
19.	Ms Ongmit Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
20.	Ms Pemkit Lepcha	Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, Dzongu
21.	Mr Pem Dorjee Sherpa	Ribdi, West Sikkim
22.	Mr Rabin Rai	Ribdi, West Sikkim
23.	Mr Passang Dorjee Sherpa	Ribdi, West Sikkim
24.	Mr Dipendra Rai	Ribdi, West Sikkim
25.	Mr Bevash Sherpa	Ribdi, West Sikkim
26.	Ms Sirmila Tamang	Ribdi, West Sikkim
27.	Ms Sujata Rai	Ribdi, West Sikkim
28.	Ms Kusum Tamang	Ribdi, West Sikkim
29.	Mr. Sangay Chong Tamang	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Benga
30.	Mr. Madan Rai	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Benga
31.	Mr Rupesh Chhetri	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
32.	Mr Milan Rai	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
33.	Mr Chandrey Rai	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
34.	Mr Tara Thapa	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
35.	Mr Bal Bahadur Chhetri	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
36.	Ms Kamala Chhetri	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
37.	Ms Laxmi Chhetri	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
38.	Ms Bisnu Chhetri	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
39.	Ms Pem Dikki Tamang	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal
40.	Ms Chandrakala Sherpa	Gorkhey-Samaden, Darjeeling, West Bengal

Annex. 3: Resource Persons and Organizing Team Members

S. No.	Name & Designation	S. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Mr. Renzino Lepcha, Expert Ecotourism Tadong, Gangtok, Sikkim +91 9733180740	2.	Dr. Nakul Chettri, Program Coordinator: KLCDI ICIMOD, Nepal +97715003319
3.	Mr. P.G. Bhutia, President KCC, Yuksam, West Sikkim +91 9735095543	4.	Dr. Kailash S. Gaira, Programme Manager :KLCDI-India GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Gangtok, Sikkim +91 9593261157
5.	Mr. Tshering Uden Bhutia, CEO KCC, Yuksam +91 9733149975	6.	Dr. Ravindra Joshi, Research Associate: KSLCDI-India GBPNIHESD, Almora (Uttarakhand) +91 9456105533
7.	Mr. Kinzong Bhutia, General Secretary KCC, Yuksam +91 9733158268	8.	Mr. Ugen Palzor Lepcha, Executive Director MLAS, Dzongu, North Sikkim +91 9679178961
9.	Dr. Santosh Chhetri, Research Associate TMI-India, Gangtok +91 8016450147	10.	Mr. Pradipto Roy, Researcher HNAF, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal +919064128029
11.	Mr. Jhony Lepcha, Senior Field Researcher: KLCDI-India GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok +918348419069	12.	Mr. Bijoy Chhetri, Senior Field Researcher: KLCDI-India GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok +917407523395
13.	Ms. Sheila Sinha, Senior Field Researcher: KLCDI-India GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok +919734970848		

Annex. 4: Broad Roles and Responsibilities

S. No.	Organisation or Facilitating Partners	Roles and Responsibilities
1.	GBPNIHESD, SKU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Overall coordination and management of the event
2.	The Mountain Institute (TMI)-India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Preparation of criteria for the selection of participants for the training-cum-exposure programme and accordingly identifying participants from the Barsey-Singalila (BS) site: ten participants each from Ribdi-Bhareng and Gorkhey-Samanden; totalling 20 in number. ❖ Arranging and managing travel facilities (vehicles, etc.) for the selected participants from place of origin (participants' accommodation) to destination (training site). ❖ Participation in the training and exposure. ❖ Ensuring productive participation in the programme. ❖ Drafting the sustainable community-based tourism plan for the BS site. ❖ Support in the preparation of the report.
3.	Himalayan Nature & Adventure Foundation (HNAF) - Siliguri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Preparation of criteria for the selection of participants for the training-cum-exposure programme and accordingly identifying participants from the Bandapani site (ten participants). ❖ Arranging and managing travel facilities (vehicles, etc.) for the selected participants from place of origin (participants' accommodation) to destination (training site). ❖ Participation in the training and exposure. ❖ Ensuring productive participation in the programme. ❖ Drafting the sustainable community-based tourism plan for Bandapani site. ❖ Support in the preparation of the report.
4.	Mutanchi Lom Aal Shezum (MLAS) -Dzongu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Preparation of criteria for the selection of participants for the training-cum-exposure programme and accordingly identifying participants from the Dzongu site (ten participants). ❖ Arranging and managing travel facilities (vehicles, etc.) for the selected participants from place of origin (participants' accommodation) to destination (training site). ❖ Participation in the training and exposure. ❖ Ensuring productive participation in the programme. ❖ Drafting the sustainable community-based tourism plan for Dzongu site ❖ Support in the preparation of the report.
5.	Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC) -Yuksam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Identifying the training venue and accommodation for the participants (including experts and a team). ❖ Taking the lead on homestay management and operations, bird watching, guides, porters and solid waste management training. ❖ Participation in the training-cum-exposure. ❖ Support in the preparation of the report.

Annex. 5: Personal Commitments of the Participants after the Training

Participant	Address	Male/ Female	Commitments
Lendup Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will form Ecotourism Committee and work for homestay development, nature conservation
Jordan Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will help in promotion of nature tourism
Rita Chhetri	Bandapani	Female	Will work for Zero Waste Management through segregation of the waste materials
Srijana Kagatey	Bandapani	Female	Will spread awareness about nature conservation in the village
Santosh Kagatey	Bandapani	Male	Will spread awareness about nature conservation through a committee in the village
Archana Kagatey	Bandapani	Female	Will mobilise villagers to plant trees in the village to maintain a healthy environment
Top Tshering Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will form good rules and regulations for keeping the village green and clean
Khimo Lepcha	Dzongu	Female	Will maintain cleanliness in the village
Anamit Lepcha	Dzongu	Female	Will maintain rules and regulations for waste management in the village
Saga Tshering Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will grow organic vegetables to promote ecotourism
Pemkit Lepcha	Dzongu	Female	Will maintain and monitor cleanliness of the village
Ongmit Lepcha	Dzongu	Female	Will give the lessons learned in the training about the management of homestays to the villagers
Rabin Rai	Ribdi	Male	Will help maintain regulations for better homestays
Dipendra Rai	Ribdi	Male	Will take steps to conserve wild animals
Pem Dorjee Sherpa	Ribdi	Male	Will train myself to be a good nature guide
Bevash Sherpa	Ribdi	Male	Will be a trekking guide and maintain homestays in the village
Laxmi Chhetri	Gorkhey	Female	Will maintain the homestay quality
Deeky Tamang	Gorkhey	Female	Will maintain the homestay and will help to keep the village clean
Madan Kumar Rai	Gorkhey	Male	Will support ecotourism development in the village
Milan Rai	Samanden	Male	Will support the zero waste management in the village
Sonam Tshering Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will maintain rules and regulations for waste management in the village and clarify the homestay concept in the village
Sonam Tarchen Lepcha	Dzongu	Male	Will recycle the waste products and protect our culture to attract tourists to our village
Chandrey Rai	Ghorkey	Male	Will help in homestay management
Chandrakala Sherpa	Ghorkey	Female	Will run the homestay in a better way
Tara Thapa	Ghorkey	Male	Will keep the village clean and maintain good rules and regulations by forming a healthy committee
Rupesh Chhetri	Samandan	Male	Will maintain the culture of the village and also maintain zero waste management in the Singalila National Park
Passang Dorjee Sherpa	Ribdi	Male	Will try to be a butterfly guide and an expert
Sirmila Tamang	Ribdi	Female	Will develop my skill to be a good cook for nature trekkers and keep the village clean
Kusum Tamang	Ribdi	Female	Want to be a good cook in a homestay
Sujata Rai	Ribdi	Female	Will save the nature of our region
Kamal Chhetri	Ghorkey	Male	Will join the ecotourism committee and help maintain ecotourism in the village
Bisnu Chhetri	Ghorkey	Male	Will keep the village clean and support the development of the village
Sangay Chong Tamang	Gorkhey	Male	Will be a nature guide
Bikash Kagatey	Bandapani	Male	Will save nature by planting trees
Ashok Kagatey	Bandapani	Male	Will increase awareness about Zero Waste Management in the village
Ester Chhetri	Bandapani	Female	Will initiate homestays in the village and will keep the village clean

Annex. 6: Pre and Post Training Questionnaire for the Participants

के० एल० सी० डी० आई० ईकोटूरिज्म प्रशिक्षण एवं प्रदर्शन भ्रमण कार्यक्रम २०-२४ सितम्बर २०१७

प्रशिक्षण को सहभागीहरूको लेखा जोखा प्रशिक्षण विषयहरूमा प्रतिभागीहरूका आफ्नो समझ एवं ज्ञानको लेखा जोखा

विषयहरू	कहिले पनि नसुनेको	सुनेको तर थोरै ज्ञान	सुनेको तर साधारण ज्ञान मात्र छ	विषय अधिक वा प्रसस्ता ज्ञान छ
१. पर्यटन अनि पर्यटन आकर्षण प्रणालि				
२. सामुदायिक पर्यटन अथवा पर्यपर्यटन				
३. आगंतुकहरूको व्यवस्थापन				
४. पर्यटन सेवा पुरयानेहरूको गुणहरू				
५. आफ्नु पाहुना बारे बुझ्ने प्रयास				
६. पर्यपर्यटन को अर्थ खोल्ने अथवा वयान अनि स्पष्टिकरण				
७. होमस्टे संचालन				

KLCDI ECOTOURISM TRAINING AND EXPOSURE VISIT PROGRAMME 20th to 24th September 2017 Training Assessment Form

A quick way to assess training topics and to determine the level of change brought about by the training in terms of the understanding and knowledge of the participants on various training topics imparted during the five-day course

	Never Heard/ No Idea	Heard but do not know – Basic knowledge	Heard but only have some general knowledge	Have better knowledge
1. Tourism and its Attraction System				
2. Components of Community-based Tourism				
3. Handling Visitors and Complaints				
4. Attributes of Service Staff				
5. Understanding your Visitor				
6. Interpretation in Ecotourism				
7. Village Homestay Concept and its Operations				

Participants Representing Four Study Areas (Bandapani, Gorkhey–Samanden, Ribdi-Bhareng, and Dzongu) of Three Pilot Sites (Bandapani, Barsey-Singalila, and Dzongu) of KL-India



Participants from Bandapani Site



Participants from Gorkhey–Samanden (Barsey-Singalila Site)



Participants from Ribdi-Bhareng (Barsey-Singalila Site)



Participants from Dzongu site



About Govind Ballabh Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Almora, Uttarakhand, India

Govind Ballabh Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD), established in the year 1988-89 [Formerly known as Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED)], as an Autonomous Institute of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, has been identified as a focal agency to advance scientific knowledge, to evolve integrated management strategies, demonstrate their efficacy for conservation of natural resources, and to ensure environmentally sound development in the entire Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). The institute functions in a decentralized manner with its headquarters at Kosi-Katarmal, Almora (Uttarakhand) and four regional centres viz., Mohal-Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Srinagar-Garhwal (Uttarakhand), Pangthang (Sikkim) and Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh). More recently, the fifth centre of GBPNIHESD has been housed in the MoEF&CC as the Mountain Division.

About Sikkim Regional Centre of the Govind Ballabh Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Pangthang, Sikkim, India



One of the regional centres of GBPNIHESD, the Sikkim Regional Centre was established in Gangtok, Sikkim in the year 1989. In the year 2004, a campus covering a land area of 17 acres became functional at Pangthang (2000m asl), at a distance of about 15 km from Gangtok, facing the mighty Mt. Khangchendzonga with a main office building, laboratories, a gamut of nurseries, herbal garden, functional arboretum, residential quarters, etc. The functional arboretum (10 acres area) houses over 100 native tree species, besides numerous shrubs and herbs, bamboo groves, rhododendron's conservatory, medicinal plants and multi-purpose tree habitat zones, with over 100 inhabiting and visiting birds and small mammals. The broad focal area of the centre covers Biodiversity Conservation and Management and Biotechnology Applications, Sustainable Environmental Development, Knowledge Base Development and Capacity Building, etc. The regional centre has been publishing substantially in a range of quality publications in national and international journals, using financial support from in-house and external projects at the national and international level.



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For further information, contact:

Headquarters: Er. Kireet Kumar, Director In-charge, G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand 263 643, India (e-mail: psdir@gbpihed.nic.in; Tel: 05962-241015, 241041)

Sikkim Regional Centre: Dr. Mithilesh Singh, Scientist In-charge, G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok, Sikkim 737 101, India (e-mail: singhmithilesh@gmail.com; Tel: 03592-237328)