



Annual Report 2008

ASIA NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND BIORESOURCES (ANSAB)

I. Overview and Foreword

Message from the Executive Director

There is a lot of talk in academia and among the international development community about the best means available to practitioners to foster sustainable development. A significant emphasis is placed these days on the promotion of sound policies and good governance at the national level, and these are indeed important considerations. Having worked directly in the field for many years, however, ANSAB has been able to observe at least an equally strong need for direct interventions that can concretely improve the lot of the poor in a relatively short time frame.

Through its various programs, ANSAB helps to create and develop resources-based enterprises managed by and for the poorest of the poor in remote areas. It does so through a comprehensive value chain approach which looks after not only business planning and training at the local level, but also linkage with regional and international exporters and financial institutions.

One of the non-negligible benefits of this approach is that the results are tangible, measureable and thus undeniable. In 2008 year alone, more than 45,894 households were able to generate US \$6.579 million in total monetary benefits, thanks to ANSAB's interventions. Another important benefit is that as communities improve their livelihood, they have a strong incentive to protect the source of their wealth – the biodiversity of their surrounding environment. ANSAB programs indeed helped to protect a total of 92,395 ha of forest and meadows throughout the year.

Over time we have been able to test, refine and improve our approaches again and again. We have always been committed to stay at the cutting-edge of development practices and, as such, were particularly pleased to see our work recognized internationally this year during the annual conference of the Global Development Network (GDN).

In addition to its work for poor rural communities, ANSAB continues to pursue important policy advocacy activities at the national level, among others through the coordination of the Nepal Non-Timber Forest Products Network. We also intensified our efforts in research and best practices dissemination at the international level by organizing a widely attended training and by participating in a major strategy session with other leading practitioners from around the world.

The Annual Report offers me the occasion once a year to formally thank those who make ANSAB success possible, and this time is no different. Thousands of impoverished households would not have seen their livelihood improve if perceptive donors hadn't believed in their potential, if talented and dedicated staff and implementation partners had not assisted and trained them, and if our experienced board members had not managed the organization with a steady hand.

To all I would like to express once again my sincere gratitude. You can dully take pride in the fact that, having worked together toward sustainable achievements, your contribution not only had positive impacts this year, but will continue to bear fruits for many years to come.



Bhishma P. Subedi, PhD
Executive Director, ANSAB

II. Introduction

Who We Are

Established in 1992, and headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal, ANSAB is an independent, not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization working in the field of biodiversity conservation and economic development in the South Asia region. ANSAB has been a forerunner in its field for over a decade, working simultaneously on the ecological, technological, economic and socio-cultural fronts associated with people-centered use and conservation of biodiversity, especially Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).

Established in 1992, and headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal, ANSAB is an independent, not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization working in the field of biodiversity conservation and economic development in the South Asia region. ANSAB has been a forerunner in its field for almost two decades-offering technical assistance in support of people-centered use and conservation of biodiversity, especially Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).

Vision

ANSAB has a vision of rural South Asia built on rich biodiversity and prosperous communities. This vision includes rich, healthy and productive ecosystems actively managed and sustainably used by formerly poor local communities. It also features adaptive people and resilient ecosystems able to cope with global climate change.

Mission

Implement community-based, enterprise-oriented solutions that conserve biodiversity and improve the livelihoods of the poorest of the poor while bolstering national economic development and addressing climate change.

Approach

Economic incentives for biodiversity conservation are the cornerstone of ANSAB's approach. We believe that as people gain control of and benefit from natural resources, they become more motivated to protect them.

ANSAB abides by the following guiding principles and approaches while planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating its program activities:

- **On the Ground Impact:** ANSAB believes in generating tangible impacts; its interventions are not only theoretical, but have also been widely tested and applied on the ground at time where such efforts were otherwise minimal. They have now yielded demonstrable results, especially in the fields of economic development and natural resource management.
- **Innovation:** ANSAB has always strived to introduce innovative and effective ideas, approaches and methodologies solve the related problems of rural development and biodiversity conservation. Over time it has acquired a solid local and international reputation, especially on the issues of community-based enterprise development and Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) management.

- **Sustainable Implementation Arrangements:** ANSAB gives high priority to the sustainability of its approach and therefore always works with local partner NGOs that will be able to pursue the work once national and international funding comes to term. It also mobilizes Local Resource Person (LRP) and establishes Community Resource Center (CRC) to build the capacity of local communities.
- **Scientific and Indigenous Knowledge:** ANSAB values indigenous knowledge and always tests both traditional and modern scientific methods when implementing projects on the ground.
- **Multi-Stakeholders Facilitation and Networking:** ANSAB works through a multi-stakeholders approach that involves local collectors, entrepreneurs, traders, companies, service providers, government line agencies and donors in the program planning. It believes in creating ownership and achieving organizational goals through joint partnership and collaboration. Our efforts till date have created a wider network of individuals and organizations devoted to implement joint solution to rural development and biodiversity conservation. These networks can share best practices and work together to scale up successful projects. They also help to examine policy options and to provide recommendations to governments at all levels.

Programs

ANSAB has categorized its major programs into four areas: 1) Economic Development; 2) Natural Resource Management; 3) Policy, Research and Networking; and 4) Capacity Building and Services.

A. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Programs in this area cover a comprehensive spectrum of activities aimed at creating and/or strengthening enterprises that improve the livelihood of poor forest owners and workers. ANSAB support begins at the earliest phases of development with assistance in identifying enterprise options, undertaking feasibility studies and developing business plans. It continues with support to access funding through commercial banks, micro-finance institutions and other financial service providers. ANSAB also works to improve the quality of products and develop new markets, notably by facilitating certifications processes (Forest Stewardship Council, organic certification, etc.).

Besides assisting primarily to the poor and women-focused Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) and farmers groups, ANSAB also supports value-added local processing and marketing enterprises as well as major national companies to promote a fair and sustainable value chain. Through its network, it links small producers with local manufacturers, local manufacturers with national companies and national companies with international buyers. It also collects and disseminates marketing information (price lists, directories, manuals) to all players to facilitate buyer-seller interactions.

B. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Programs in this area regroup targeted activities aimed at improving the management of natural resources by local communities. ANSAB builds the capacity of local Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) in forest resource assessments, sustainable harvesting practices, good governances, and the mutually reinforcing links between conservation and economic development. These capacities help them develop and follow sustainable forest management plans. ANSAB also promote innovative agro-

forestry practices for poor landless individuals and help CFUGs adhere to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification standards. It moreover helps identify rare and endangered plant species and develop participatory biodiversity monitoring tools to ensure their conservation.

In addition to these traditional programs, ANSAB currently conducts research on payment-scheme for ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration through deforestation reduction.

C. POLICY RESEARCH AND NETWORKING

ANSAB believes that a sound policy framework is very important to the effective implementation of its programs on the ground. As such, it works with key stakeholders from the grassroots level to national policy makers to further improve the development and implementation of government policy in the agricultural and forestry sectors. The objective is to create an enabling legal environment for biodiversity conservation and economic development through community-based and enterprise-oriented solutions.

ANSAB coordinates the Nepal NTFP Network (NNN), which has over 50 institutional and 300 individual members. The NNN brings together communities, businesses, donors, environmental and government representatives to discuss and work on promoting sustainable use and management of NTFPs. At the request of the Government of Nepal, it led the national policy development process for herbs and NTFPs which resulted in the promulgation of the Herbs and NTFP Development Policy of 2004.

In 2008, ANSAB continued to work on various policy issues and to make policy recommendations to the government. It for example hosted the 32nd NNN meeting, which discussed the current policy issues related to EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) and IEE (Initial Environmental Examination) for NTFPs and Forest based products. The meeting regrouped NNN members representing all concerned stakeholders, including INGOs, NGOs, Government organizations and private agencies.

D. CAPACITY BUILDING AND SERVICES

ANSAB believes in strengthening the capacity of local communities, NGOs, private enterprises and government bodies to ensure development that is sustainable in the long run.

ANSAB caters to the needs and strengthen the capacity of a wide variety of agencies and communities. With over a decade of experience in biodiversity conservation, community-based enterprise development, natural resource management and NTFPs sub-sector development, there is a great demand for its trainings, technical assistance and publications services.

In 2008, ANSAB held a total of 327 capacity building events, including workshops, study tours, networking gathering, market information dissemination, buyer-sellers linkage as well as planning, coordination and review meetings. 35,632 people, 40% of which were women, benefited from these events.

III. MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS/ EVENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Most Innovative Development Project Award

ANSAB's "Biodiversity Conservation through a Community-Based Enterprise" approach was selected as the second best from 180 proposals submitted from around the world at the Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP) Award 2008 organized by the Global Development Network (GDN). The Award is granted to an institution whose projects embodies a fresh approach to an important development need and held great promise for benefiting the poor in developing and transition countries.

Initial evaluations of the 180 proposals were carried out through rigorous in-house assessment. An external evaluator then visited two community-based enterprises in Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk districts of Nepal. Throughout his stay, the evaluator had intensive discussions and interactions with the local CFUGs, entrepreneurs, poor, disadvantaged groups and related stakeholders.

A final evaluation was made at the GDN's 10th Annual Conference held in Kuwait on February 3-5, 2009, where three selected organizations presented their approach to the audience and an eminent panel of judges. ANSAB is the first among Nepali organizations to be a finalist at Most Innovative Development Project Award.

2. Rural Development Initiative Strategy Session

Together with the Global Environmental Institute-Americas (GEI-A), ANSAB played a major role to organise the Rural Development Initiative (RDI) Strategy Session that was sponsored by the blue moon fund (bmf) and held on December 6-7, 2008 in Kathmandu.

The purpose of the strategy session was to regroup pioneer practitioners for examining and synthesizing current innovative approaches to the dual and mutually reinforcing problems of poverty and environmental degradation in rural areas, and to scale up the best practices. Different organizations from US, China, India, Bhutan, Laos, and Nepal presented their experiences.

The RDI and ANSAB share the common vision that market-based solutions grounded in sustainable entrepreneurial approaches offer promising avenues for the long-term prosperity of rural communities, while at the same time protecting and restoring healthy ecological systems.

3. International Value Chain Analysis Training

ANSAB organized a well-received international training on the development of value chain promotion programs on October 21-23, 2008 in Kathmandu. The training was facilitated by our chairman, Dr. Jack Croucher, who is himself an expert with more than 30 years of experience in rural development and has conducted workshops on this topic throughout the globe.

Participants learned about using the value chain approach to help small firms increase their market-orientation and strengthen their links with local and international investors. Several cases studies were presented to illustrate how to design, implement and monitor value chain upgrading projects.

IV. Overall Impact in 2008

ANSAB measures its effectiveness on the ground through its Impact Tracking System (ITS). Specific outcomes are measured in terms of monetary benefits to primary producers and collectors, degree of economic participation in the value chain, and forest areas under improved management. In 2008:

- A total of 724 economic entities were developed and strengthened, involving 13,376 owners (53.51% male and 46.41% female), 7,972 workers (53.22% male and 46.78% female), 10,876 raw material supplier (53.19% male and 46.81% female) and generating sales of US \$1,250,641.

This brings ANSAB total contribution since 2003 to:

- A total of 77.571 thousands economic participants were able to generate US \$6.579 million in total monetary benefits (Fig 1 and 2);
- A total of 92,395 ha of forest and meadows were brought under improved community management, benefitting 45,894 households.

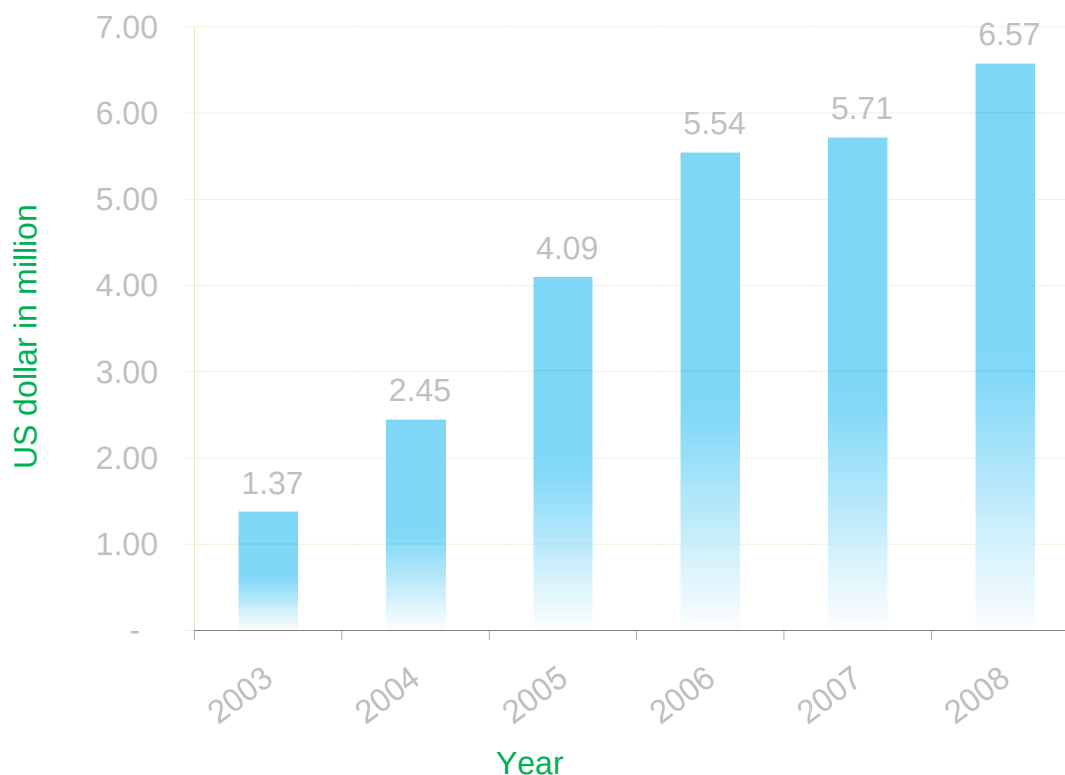


Fig 1: Annual total Monetary Benefits generated from ANSAB's intervention in Nepal

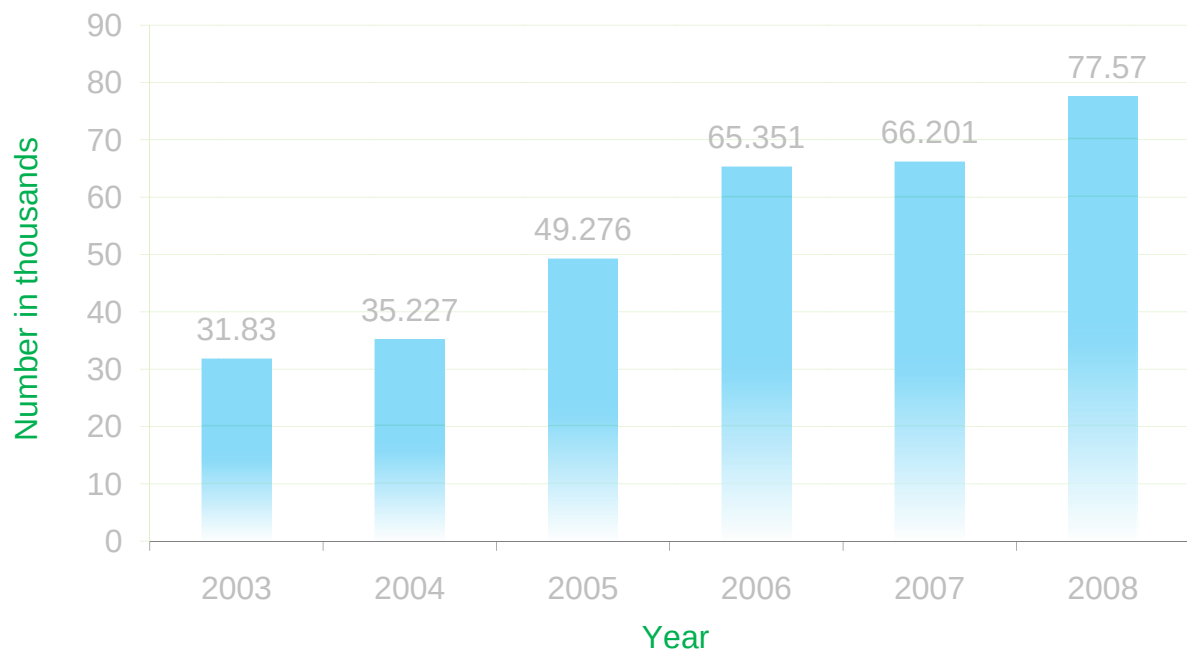


Fig 2: Total Economic Participants from ANSAB's intervention in Nepal

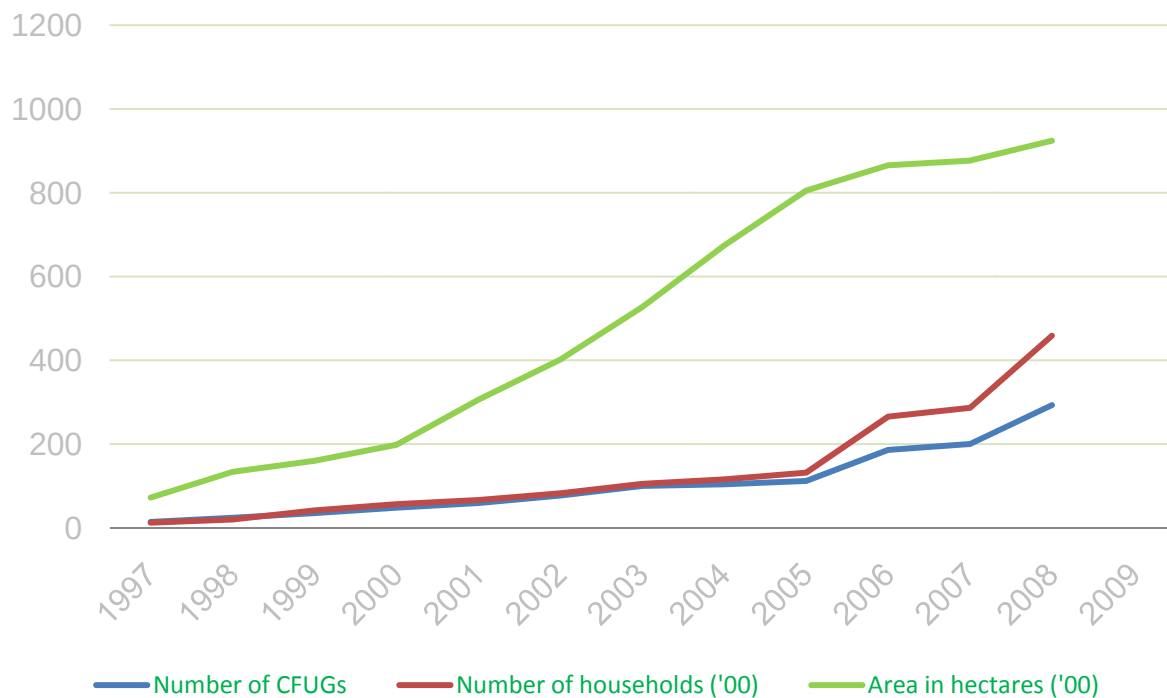


Fig 3: Number of Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) worked with, Households (HHs) who benefitted from improved livelihood, and forest and meadow area brought into improved community management.

Case Study: Collaboration with Aveda to fight poverty with conservation enterprises

The 2008 Holiday gift sets for Aveda, a major US-based natural beauty product company, featured handmade Lokta bark paper from Nepal. While beautifully showcasing Aveda products, this exceptionally durable and attractive paper helped marginalized community groups effectively fight poverty and conserve globally significant areas of biodiversity. The bark used in the fabrication of the paper was indeed harvested in Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified forests by local communities in the Himalayas.

The effective collaboration between Aveda and the Himalayan Bio Trade Private Limited (HBTL)—the community-based natural products processing and trading company from which the paper is sourced — is a result of years of coordinated effort in strengthening the capacity of community forest user groups and community-based forest enterprises to sustainably develop the forest products value chains.

Coordinating a private-public alliance to promote Nepal's unique Non-timber Forest Products, which includes Non-Governmental Organizations, Community Forest Users Groups, local forest products companies, The Rainforest Alliance and Aveda, ANSAB successfully introduced Forest Stewardship Certification in Nepal back in 2002. Initially supported by USAID, Ford Foundation, and SNV, the effort successfully allowed the Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal (FECOFUN) to become a resource manager for FSC group certification – the first community based non-timber forest products (NTFP) FSC certification in Asia. Similarly, eight forest-based enterprises including HBTL, received FSC Chain of Custody certification.

The FSC certification is a great achievement from environmental and social points of view, but it is only a step to place products with high value international markets. The capacity building, enterprise development and product supply chain development championed by ANSAB and Enterprise Works/VITA (EWW) in partnership with Aveda were just as important if not more so.

“The average buyer looking at the Aveda packaging and buying the products has no idea how much expertise is needed to bring a product up to international standards, comply with all export and import regulations, and develop a local community's basic business skills to profitably manage an enterprise that meets the highest environmental and social standards” said Ann Koontz, Senior Program Advisor for EWW.

Aveda's invaluable advice and assistance to Nepali enterprises enabled them to become successful enterprises meeting the requirements of international buyers, regulations of importing countries, and distinguishing their products in the marketplace. Aveda made investments in HBTL to help them improve production efficiency and quality consistency.

Aveda Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Estee Lauder Companies Inc. is a worldwide beauty company that manufactures plant-based hair care, skin care, makeup, and lifestyle products with a commitment to protecting the environment, conserving resources and supporting indigenous communities. Founded in 1978, Aveda has long been a leader in conducting business in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and ANSAB thanks them for their continued commitment to Nepali community forestry initiatives.

V. Project Portfolio in 2008¹

1. Transforming Local Communities into Enterprises for Economic Security in Nepal

Funded by the Ford Foundation, the project (2007 – 2010) aims to transform natural resource dependent rural communities into commercially viable and sustainable entities generating employment and economic security. The project is being implemented in collaboration with local partners in nine districts of Nepal: Bhajang, Darchula, Baitadi, Humla, Parbat, Baglung, Myagdi, Dolakha and Sindhupalchok.

Major activities this year included strengthening linkages with national exporters and machine suppliers for several NTFPs; organization of on-site visits with potential international buyers; market and product development for churi; test production of improved and cost effective stoves for briquette; organization of 250 farmers into 12 collective marketing groups for soap nut marketing; assistance in revising the forest management operation plans of 29 CFUGs, and support in forming Yarshagumba Conservation Committees in two districts.

In addition to regular community support by project staffs, a total of 286 formal activities (total participants – 9,102 including 3,174 women and 899 disadvantaged groups) was organized, helping to form 566 enterprise entities (ultra-poor and women focused sub-groups, micro-entrepreneurs and value-added processing and marketing enterprises) and 162 CFUGs.

2. Smallholder Irrigation Market Initiative (SIMI)

Funded by USAID and implemented in collaboration with Winrock International, this ongoing project (October 2007- September 2009) aims to strengthen the support for smallholder communities through an integrated community level program comprising both economic and social support activities. The program is designed to build the capacity of alliance members and to increase their income sustainably. ANSAB is involved in implementing the NTFPs portion of the program in Humla and Banke districts.

In 2008, main activities included regular delivery of market information; linkages between rural communities, local processing enterprises and buyers; technical support for the preparation of CFUGs' business plans; training and dissemination of communication material to collectors and traders for sustainable and value addition cultivation and processing; facilitating a partnership between manufacturers to set up a new distillation factory, disease pest management; assist with the formation of sub-group of NTFP collectors (who are mostly poor and disadvantaged member of communities) within the CFUGs. In total, ANSAB supported 73 CFUGs and sub-groups representing 1541 households through this project this year.

3. Inclusive economic growth through forest and NTFPs based enterprise promotion in Livelihood & Forestry Program working areas

¹ ANSAB started to work on three other projects in the last two months of 2008: *Poverty reduction through crop intensification in rice fallows (RRC) project*, funded by Research into Use (RIU) and delivered in collaboration with LIBIRD and FORWARD, and *Enhancing livelihood & Reducing Poverty of Mountain People by Linking High Value Products & Services (HVPS) to Value Chain Development*, funded by the Ford Foundation and delivered in collaboration with the Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and *Forest Connect Nepal*, funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). As implementation is still in its infant stage, activities under these projects will be reported in our next Annual Report.

Funded by UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and implemented in collaboration with the Livelihood & Forestry Program (LFP), the project (2008) aims to enhance the capacity of LFP and its partners (including communities/FUGs) to identify and create economic opportunities for local communities through the promotion of NTFPs and small scale forest-based enterprises.

Major outputs generated through this project in 2008 include enterprise development trainings; documentation of LFP practices and learning; strengthening of ANSAB-LFP partnership for community enterprise development in Myagdi, Baglung, Pyuthan and Parbat; and continuous advisory support to LFP field team on enterprise development and marketing.

4. Local initiatives for conservation of biodiversity and threatened economic species in Nepal Himalaya

Funded by Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung, the project (October 2006 to December 2008) was successfully implemented in the Parbat district of Nepal. The project's objective was to strengthen the sustainable management and conservation of Nepal's forests by piloting community-based initiatives with a focus on the protection of ecosystems and endangered economic species with a good potential for generating sustainable income for local communities.

Major activities in 2008 included the prioritization of new geographic areas; conduction of orientations and awareness campaigns; identification of additional possible micro-enterprises and entrepreneurs; assistance with the restructuring of existing community forest management plans; and support to several enterprises development plans and promotion. 324.02ha of forest areas managed by 661 households were brought under conservation initiatives throughout the year, bringing the final total for this project at 674.9 ha of forest areas managed by 1757 households.

5. Piloting NTFPs Certification and Responsible Business Practices in Lao PDR

Funded by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV), this project aims to determine the feasibility, appropriateness and replicability of introducing Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) NTFPs certification in Lao PDR

Major activities of the mandate included preparing material and giving training to entrepreneurs on FSC forest management certification and forest management planning; drafting guidelines on Chain of Custody (CoC) certification and group manager policy; backstopping support for FSC CoC to entrepreneurs and WWF staff; training villagers on Participatory Sustainable Forest Management (PSFM) and certification orientation; and assisting the preparation of land tenure agreement. In addition, ANSAB shared its experience on certification with national consultants, local enterprises and other relevant stakeholders through several meetings and on-site visits.

6. Advancing Agroforestry Research and Development

Funded by the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the project (2007 – 2008) aimed to identify, describe and document the wise agroforestry practices in Nepal. The project explored agroforestry (AF) systems and practices in Nepal, identified the four most promising practices, and analyzed them for possible improvements and replication. The findings were then disseminated to key stakeholders.

Case Study: From “coolie” to enterprise manager

As part of its mission to create a rich biodiversity and prosperous people, ANSAB has been promoting Non-timber Forest Products. One such project is through building small distillation units to extract the vital oils from essential oil producing products. The distillation of the plants reduces the need to transport huge amounts of bulky raw products long distances and allows the Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) who work together in distillation cooperatives to add value to their products as the distilled oils are much more easily transported and command a much higher price. In addition to helping the CFUGs set up the cooperatives, ANSAB also provides training, technical support and assistance with marketing. ANSAB also links the cooperatives’ products with high-end export market buyers, such as the US-based cosmetic company Aveda. Project impacts include using fallow and marginal land to cultivate aromatic plants; providing local communities with access to distant markets; developing technical cultivation and processing skills; and generating employment for local community members.

The personal impact, however, is one of the most impressive: per-household income for participating households has increased by 11,202 rupees annually (\$174). For example, take the case of Ramesh Lama, who learned how to operate a distillation unit from his District Forest Officer. Although he had been a “coolie” (unskilled laborer) all his life and did not have previous experience in forestry, he has now been working for eight years as the Manager of Deudhunga Cooperative’s Distillation Units. As manager, he takes the distilled oil from all of the four distillation units in the cooperative and consolidates it to take to market. Moreover, as a member, he also has shares in the cooperative – a unique business method, which makes members eager to see the units succeed and which also puts collective pressure on the many people involved in making the operation successful – from collectors through to the manager. In total, in Ramesh’s particular cooperative, five Community Forest Users Groups (CFUGs) and 25 individuals have shares in the business.

Ramesh records the quantity of raw materials that the harvesters of the CFUGs give to the Cooperative and also accounts for the money owed and received by the different parties. It is a challenge at times, he notes, to be responsible for so many different people’s actions, but, at the same time it provides a service to the many people involved in the processing.

Due to his skills he has acquired, Ramesh is now also training others on how to use and manage distillation units. He earns 500 NRs per day as a technical trainer and has also helped set up projects in nearby Durban. “I am happy to come to work and feel glad that I learned a new skill that I can do on my own,” says Ramesh. “Moreover, the revenue from my training jobs, from the consolidation management work, and from my shares feeds my family.”

Ramesh’s expertise is in demand – with ANSAB he will be going to Bhutan to train local individuals on the proper use of oil distillation units.

VI. ANSAB's Publication and Documentaries

Pandey, S. S., and B.P. Subedi. 2008. Nepal Case Study: Community-based Forestry in Nepal. *In* Community-based Conservation: Is it More Effective, Efficient and Sustainable? The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

Singh, S.P., and B.P. Subedi. 2008. Ecosystem Services of Forests in Nepal and Uttarakhand Himalayas: A few observations Based on a Pilot Study. Pages 214-241 *in* M. Bhatnagar, editor. Payment for Environmental Services: Some Concepts and Experiences., India.

Baral, S., Magar, S. K.T., Subedi, B. P., and H. Vacik. 2008. Community based non-timber forest products enterprise for sustainable rural livelihoods: wintergreen trade in Nepal. Mountain Forests in a Changing World Advances in Research on Sustainable Management and the Role of Academic Education. BOKU International Conference. April 2-4, 2008. University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

VII. Whom Do We Work With

ANSAB works with a variety of donors and partners to effectively and sustainably implement its programs. Through its numerous past projects it has developed a network of partnerships with over 100 different institutions, including government and non government entities, national and international organizations, universities, private companies and research institutions. In 2008, ANSAB worked with following donors and partners:

Donors

- DFID
- USAID
- FAO
- The Ford Foundation
- ICRAF (World Agro forestry Center)
- Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung (MHS)
- WWF Laos
- SNV/Bhutan
- RECOFT
- Blue moon fund
- Future Generation
- FSC

Partners

- Winrock Interantional
- ICIMOD
- LFP
- Practical Action
- Ramboll Finnconsult Oy
- AVEDA
- IDRC
- Pro Forest
- FORWARD
- LIBIRD
- NTNC
- CECI
- Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project NSCFP/SDC
- Participatory Forest Management Project (PFMP) Bhutan
- National trust For Nature Conservation,
- NARMA Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.
- SEEPORT Consultancy Pvt. Ltd
- ECARDS, Dolakha(Ecology, Agriculture and Rural Development Society- Dolakha)
- SEEWA , Parbat (Sustainable Enterprise, Environment and Women Awareness Society)
- BYC, Baglung (Bhimpokhara Youth Club)
- SANGAM, Myadgi (Sustainable Approach on Natural Resource Management and General Awareness for Micro-Enterprises)
- SDC, (Social Development Center) Bajhang
- MDS, Darchula (Markendeya Development Community)
- SEWA , Baitaidi (Sustainable Enterprise and Women Awareness Society)
- HCDA, Humla (Himalaya Conservation and Development Association)

VIII. Financial Report

ANSAB's total revenue during the year was Nrs. 21.8 million, of which 54.7 % was income from the donors, grants-in-aid accounted for 29.5%, foreign currency exchange gain was 13.4% and miscellaneous income was 2.4 % respectively.

Similarly, ANSAB's total expenditure was Nrs. 20.2 million, of which project expenditure accounted for 50.1%, research and development was 21.3 % and overhead accounted for 28.6% of the total figure.

ANSAB		
Balance Sheet		
as on December 31, 2008		
Figures in Rupees		
	Current Year	Previous Year
Non-Current Assets:		
Fixed Assets (at cost less depreciation)	1,193,356	1,849,758
Investment in CBEs as Seed Capital	500,000	500,000
	1,693,356	2,349,758
Current Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	19,495,463	16,611,334
Accounts Receivable from Donors	162,982	22,557
Prepaid Advances Accruals and Deposits	932,019	1,141,293
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions	(4,573,558)	(4,014,592)
	16,016,905	13,760,593
Total Assets	17,710,261	16,110,352
Represented by:		
Restricted Fund	6,475,266	6,476,988
Equity Fund	11,234,995	9,633,364
Total Funds	17,710,261	16,110,352

ANSAB		
Statement of Income and Expenditure		
for the year ended December 31, 2008		
	Figures in Rupees	
	Current Year	Previous Year
Income		
Income from Donors for Projects	11,912,364	18,279,815
Grants-in-aid	6,419,794	4,060,664
Miscellaneous Income	528,756	2,291,370
Total Income	18,860,915	24,631,849
Expenditure		
Direct Project Expenditure	10,095,224	16,423,155
Research and Development Cost	4,302,536	3,323,437
General and Overhead Cost	5,767,067	4,924,904
Provision for Doubtful Debt	0	0
Total Expenditure	20,164,827	24,671,496
Surplus/(Deficit) from operation	(1,303,912)	(39,647)
Gain on Foreign Currency Exchange	2,905,543	(1,140,093)
Total Expenditure		
Surplus/(Deficit) transferred to General Fund	1,601,631	(1,179,740)

IX. Organizational Portfolio

1. Values

ANSAB's work is grounded in a fundamental belief that people are critical to organizational success; they are the organization's governing body and its mission keepers. In creating our products and services, interacting with our donors, partners, clients, staff, and community members, we are proud and privileged to work with a wide range of peoples in various countries with different cultural, economic, social and political systems. During these interactions, ANSAB embraces the following values:

- **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION:** We are committed to achieving conservation results and we work with dedication and passion for our cause. We promote environmental responsibility at all levels, from our workplace, to the field to the international arena.
- **IMPACT:** We are committed to generating positive change and approaching problems in a practical, creative, and flexible manner to benefit the greatest number of stakeholders. At all levels of program implementation, ANSAB positions itself as a facilitator to best impact local communities.
- **INNOVATION AND CRITICAL THINKING:** We seek to be the best in our fields and provide training, technical expertise to strengthen awareness and build capacity. ANSAB continually adapts and builds on its own and others' experience. Strengthening local resources at the ground level is key.
- **EQUALITY AND INCLUSIVENESS:** We respect the needs and aspirations of employees, our partners in biodiversity and prosperous communities by acknowledging and honouring diversity in terms of race, gender, culture, religion and different needs regarding work/family balance. ANSAB's programs promote equity and good governance and are inclusive of gender and disadvantaged groups – from design to implementation.
- **PROFESSIONALISM:** Through our integrity and our ethical behavior, we focus on and advance ANSAB's mission everyday as we strive to achieve long-term goals. Our dedication lies in providing quality products and interventions as opposed to just trying to have as many projects as possible.
- **SUSTAINABILITY:** ANSAB emphasizes sustainability aspects in terms of institutional development, capacity building, and program impacts.
- **SOCIAL AWARENESS:** ANSAB integrates the societal objectives of resource conservation and the economic growth of communities.

2. Board of Directors

ANSAB is governed by an international board of five to seven directors including noted economists, scientists, businesspeople, government representatives and leaders in environmental, economic, and social areas. In 2008, ANSAB was governed by the following members:

1. Dr. Jack William Croucher, Chairperson
2. Prof. S.P. Singh, Vice Chairperson - Vice Chancellor, H.N.B. Garhwal University
3. Mr. David Hircock, Member - Advisor, AVEDA Corporation

4. Mr. Tek Bahadur Thapa, Ex-Officio Member - Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC)
5. Dr. Bhishma Prasad Subedi, Ex Officio Member - Executive Director, ANSAB
6. Mr. Radesh Pant, Member - Managing Director, Bank of Kathmandu

3. ANSAB Team

ANSAB has a team of more than 50 dedicated and motivated professionals, working to achieve the shared vision of rich biodiversity and prosperous communities. ANSAB works with a wide range of experts and consultants and has a roster of more than 200 experts. ANSAB staff and consultants have expertise in fields such as: natural products-based community enterprise development, business development services, value chain promotion, natural resource management, community forestry, forest certification, sociology, environmental science, economics, marketing, biodiversity research, biological and socio-economic monitoring, networking, policy analysis, research, finance and accounting. In 2008, following staff members contributed to achieving the organization's goals.

S.N.	Name	Designation
Headquarters Based Staff		
1.	Bhishma P. Subedi	Executive Director
2.	Kiran Chandra Adhikary	Manager - Finance and Administration
3.	Sushil Gyawali	Manager - Enterprise Program
4.	Shiva S. Pandey	NRM Officer
5.	Reejuta Sharma	Communication Officer
6.	Nabraj Panta	Enterprise Development Officer
7.	Prakash Katwal	Enterprise Program Officer
8.	Pratima Manandhar	Admin Assistant
9.	Anju Katuwal	Account Assistant
10.	Ram H. Subedi	Enterprise/Marketing Advisor
11.	Gopi Poudel	ARC Manager
12.	Jasmine Puri	Associate Information Officer
13.	Binod Shrestha	Messenger

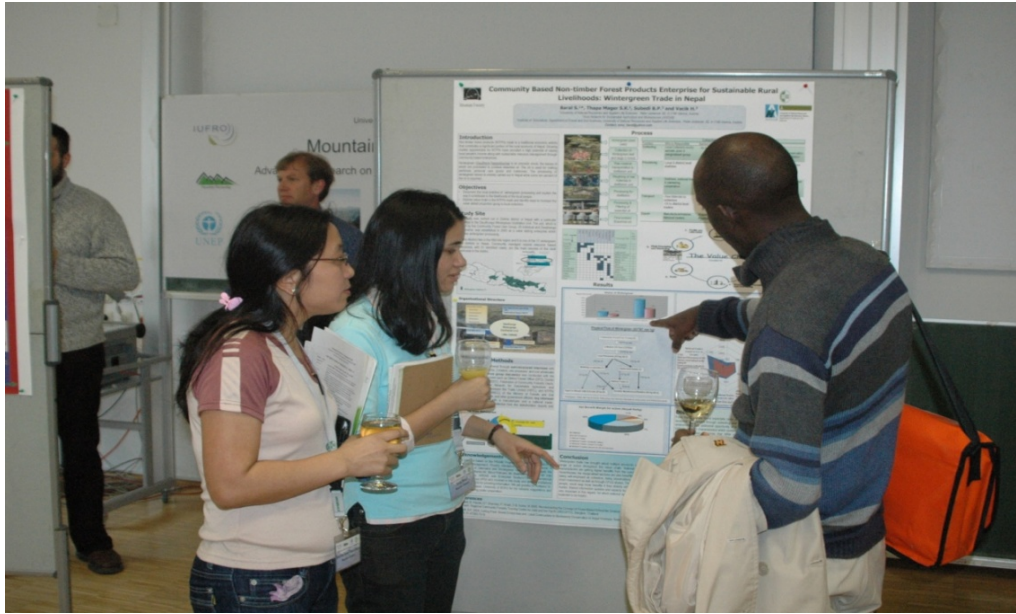
14.	Ravi Khatri	Driver
15.	Dil B. Gurung	Guard
16.	Kamala Lamichhane	Office Helper
17.	Santa Shrestha	Sweeper
Field Based Staff		
18.	Ambika Paudel	Area Coordinator – West (Baglung)
19.	Chandika Amgain	Senior Field Coordinator - Dolakha
20.	Bishnu P. Luitel	District Coordinator - Humla
21.	Govinda Baral	Senior Field Coordinator - Bajhang
22.	Mitra L. Bhandari	Field Coordinator - Darchula
23.	Indra Adhikari	Senior Field Coordinator - Myagdi
24.	Gopal P. Sharma	Senior Field Coordinator - Parbat
25.	Shambhu Baraili	Field Coordinator – Dolakha

4. Geographical Coverage

In 2008, ANSAB implemented its program in 24 districts: Bajhang, Darchula, Baitadi, Humla, Parbat, Baglung, Myagdi, Dolakha, Sindhupalchok, Teharhum, Bhojpur, Sankhuwasabha, Dinkuta, Myagdi, Syngja, Dang, Pyuthan, Salyan, Rukum, Rolpa, Banke, Kailali, Kapilbastu, Nawalparasi, Rupandhehi, Dhanusa and Siraha.

Besides its programs in Nepal, ANSAB also provided program development, planning, and capacity building support and services in Bhutan and Lao PDR.

X. The Year in Pictures



Paper and poster presentation by ANSAB in BOKU International Conference, Vienna, April 2-4, 2008



Training organized for Piloting NTFPs Certification and Responsible Business Practices by ANSAB with local partners in Lao PDR, November 17, 2008



Certified Forest Area – Chandika, Bajhang



Women participation in CF planning process by ANSAB



Harvesting wintergreen in Dolakha, Nepal



A woman wintergreen collector receiving cash from distillation enterprise



FSC certified Essential oil produced in CFUGs of Dolakha and Humla



FSC Certified Handmade paper



Malika Handmade Paper enterprise-Bajhang, Nepal



AVEDA Gift Set made from the Handmade Paper manufactured by ANSAB supported communities in Bajhang and Dolkha Districts, including Malika Enterprise-Bajhang.