# Hariyo Ban Program











The Hariyo Ban consortium offers its sincere condolences to all those who lost loved ones, friends and colleagues in the recent floods and landslides in Nepal and the region, and those who lost homes and property. In collaboration with other agencies we will work with communities in our project areas to help restore livelihoods and wellbeing, and support restoration of damaged wildlife habitats. Just as we have been contantly doing, we will work to build community and ecosystem resilience and reduce risk from future disasters.

#### **Message from the Chief of Party**

Dear Partners and Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that Hariyo Ban is now entering its fourth and second last year. Looking back, the studies and capacity building we did in the early years paid great dividends as they helped shape the direction of the program. The Chitwan-Annapurna Landscape (CHAL) rapid assessments created a solid base for our work there, and in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL), studies on corridors, human-wildlife conflict, biodiversity threats, and focal species helped us to prioritize our support to the TAL program. Climate vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans at various levels formed a foundation for the climate adaptation component.



Judy Oglethorpe



#### **Calling a Consensus for Action**

o celebrate World Environment Day 2014 with a difference, USAID Nepal, the US Embassy in Nepal and the Hariyo Ban Program jointly organized a week filled with a host of events, screenings and workshops designed to spread awareness about environmental conservation and climate change.

At the start, June 4 saw the reconvening of journalist participants from the 'Connecting the Dots' media workshop held in June 2013. This year the group included some new participants; and open discussions comprised of reflections and lessons from the past year, as journalists discussed the challenges of environmental journalism, the best ways to package environmental issues, and key environment issues of 2014 including policy matters.



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#### **Improved Stoves, Forests and Lives**

"You ask what the Improved Cooking Stoves have done for us? They have changed our lives, that's what they have done," says Bishnu Paudel, a resident of Dhikurpokhari VDC in Kaski district in northcentral Nepal. This spirited woman is a member of the Bhakarjung Community Forest Users Group (CFUG), which has received support through the Hariyo Ban Program for the construction of Improved Cooking Stoves (ICSs).



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### **Keyed to Conservation**



"The first time I saw a computer, I was scared to touch a key. I thought it would burst apart,"says 28 year old Hira Singh, a trainee at the Computer Training Center in Mahadevpuri Community Forest Coordination Committee (CFCC) office, Banke district in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL). Singh is one of the nine trainees enhancing their computer skills at the center.

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#### **Huslangkot finds happiness**

A little support, ingenuity and determination is all it takes to make an entire community joyful. The residents of Huslangkot of Dharampani in Tanahun District, who used to walk for up to three hours each day for a pot of water, currently have water gushing from taps right next to their homes. The Hariyo Ban Program through CARE Nepal helped to make this possible by supporting an innovative approach for the local community to adapt to drought and other adverse impacts of climate change.



#### **Breaking Stereotypes: Building Successes**



Women in the rural villages of Nepal are so restricted by their household chores and bound by tradition that they seldom find time to venture out in search of economically fruitful pursuits. However, it is essential to empower these women, especially those from forest dependent communities, so that they ensure their livelihoods and wellbeing without over-exploiting forests.

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## **Helping Communities discover their Power**



"When I first visited the community I was supposed to work with, almost everyone ignored me. It was only when I spent a long time interacting and coordinating with community members that they realized we could collaborate for their benefit," says Pushpa Kunwar Bhandari, a Local Resource Person (LRP) from Bhimdatta Municipality of Kanchanpur district in western Nepal. Bhandari is one of more than 200 such LRPs in Hariyo Ban Program who have been specially appointed to mobilize community members in biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, good governance, and gender and social inclusion (GESI).

#### **Designing a climate adaptive world**



"Climate change is a serious concern that all of us need to be aware about and act upon," says Bidhan Rajbhandari, the winner of our info-graphic competition on climate change. "Nepal is no exception to this rule. Hence, through my info-graphic I set about explaining the adverse effects of climate change. We first need to understand and internalize it before turning towards action."

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# A Journey from Rita to Raangi Didi

"There were times when our children were punished at school for not wearing uniforms. Uniforms were a luxury for us back then, when we had to sleep on empty stomachs," Rita Pariyar, a resident of Bhulbhule VDC of Lamjung, recounts of her earlier days. "But now, thanks to the livelihood improvement plan (LIP) support I received, those days are behind me. I can proudly go about my business and run my home through my profits."





#### **Publications**













#### **Videos**



#### 'She is the Change'

Click here to watch the documentary centered on an exemplary woman residing in Bandipur VDC, Tanahu. The video covers her involvement in conservation, her enterprises, her struggle in the past, challenges that she faced, and the changes she brought in her own and others' life. A story of female empowerment!



# 'The Last Yak Herder of Dhe – Part I' The first part of the video that chronicles the difficult life of a traditional community in the rough terrains of Dhe village in Mustang valley. A must watch for anyone interested in cultural and social changes brought about due to potential impacts of climate change.



'The Last Yak Herder of Dhe – Part II'
The second part of the video that talks of the potential impacts of climate change causing a transformation in the lives of an ancient community in Dhe village of Mustang valley.

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#### **Questions or Comments:**

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