

FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Preserving and Leveraging Bhutan's Unique Cultural Diversity



Project Supported by a grant from the European Union under the theme "Investing in People- Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity"

Contract n DCI-HUM/2010/206-858

1. Description

- 1.1. **Name of beneficiary of grant contract:** HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Bhutan
- 1.2. **Name and title of the contact person:** Kunzang Dorji, Project Coordinator
- 1.3. **Name of partners in the action:** Tarayana Foundation, Department of Culture, Department of Local Governance, Tourism Council of Bhutan, and Gross National Happiness Commission
- 1.4. **Title of the action:** Preserving and Leveraging Bhutan’s Unique Cultural Identity
- 1.5. **Contract number:** DCI-HUM/2010/206-858
- 1.6. **Start date and end date of the reporting period**¹: 1st June 2010 to 31st May, 2013
- 1.7. **Target country(ies) or region(s):** Four ethnic communities in three Districts in Bhutan. The Lhops and Rais in Dorokha, Samtse in southern Bhutan, The Khengpas of Ngangla, Zhemgang district in central Bhutan and the Sharchops of Kengkhar, Mongar district in eastern Bhutan.
- 1.8. **Final beneficiaries &/or target groups**² (if different) (including numbers of women and men)

Target Groups: There are four target groups consisting of four ethnic communities in three districts – a) 908 Lhops (385 women and 523 men) in Samtse district in the south; b) 383 Rais (186 women and 197 men) in Samtse district in the south; c) 1152 Khengpas (562 women and 590 men) in Zhemgang district in the south-central region; and d) 3,616 Sharchops (1755 women and 1861 men) in Mongar district in the east.
- 1.9. **Country (ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):** N/A

¹ The entire implementation period of the action

² “Target groups” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and “final beneficiaries” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

2. Assessment of implementation of action activities

2.1. Executive Summary of the action

“Preserving and Leveraging Bhutan’s Unique Cultural Diversity” aimed at poverty alleviation and livelihood improvement by building on Bhutan’s cultural diversity. More specifically, the project engaged with four target groups in the south and eastern parts of the country to meaningfully use their cultural heritage to generate economic benefits. To be able to do so, the project sought to first enhance the understanding of and appreciation for these diverse cultures and then to build on this understanding for income generation for the target communities. Therefore, the four targets groups were selected based on their cultural distinctiveness and high poverty status.

This report covers the entire period of the project: June 2010-May 2013. HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Bhutan is the project implementer together with its implementation partner Tarayana Foundation, a local NGO. Partners and advisors were from committees of representatives from target groups, central government agencies (Department of Culture, Department of Local Governance, Department of Education, Gross National Happiness Commission), local governments in partner districts, and autonomous agencies (Tourism Council of Bhutan).

The project had five interconnected estimated results, focusing on outcomes from documentation, capacity building, preservation and income generation activities. Under the first result, ‘Minority groups value heritage, assert ownership and demand rights’, the emergence and development of community based institutions was an important strategy that led to increased ownership of project activities and a decentralized approach to project decision-making and implementation. The second result, ‘Improved capacities for cultural preservation, documentation of existing traditions, collection of material culture, establishment of heritage sites and museums contribute towards sustaining and preserving traditions’, focused on enabling target communities to become active stakeholders in upholding their cultural heritage. The third result, ‘Channels for disseminating information on cultural tradition and for exchanging cultural experiences are developed’, supported the creation of different mediums of documentations on the target communities with the aim of enhancing understanding and respect for minority cultures. The fourth result, ‘Appreciation for cultural traditions contributes towards better understanding between groups, better social standing of marginalized groups and reduces discrimination’, communicated one of the long term expectations of the project to mobilize support for vulnerable groups through informing about the richness of their traditions and skills. Such results are difficult to measure during the lifetime of a three year project. However, outputs prompted by exchange visits and awareness raising events can be seen. The fifth result, ‘Tourism driven by interest in cultural traditions provides income opportunities for marginalized groups, reduces migration and contributes towards preservation of traditions’, was the most challenging result to achieve partly because of the remoteness of the target communities and partly because of dependence on development of other tourism services that are beyond the scope of the project. Therefore, in agreement with the EU, the focus has been on creating awareness with the tourism sector on culturally interesting tourism potentials, and skills development in crafts marketing.

Throughout the implementation of the project, efforts have been made to link the project activities to on-going or planned programs of strategic partners such as the Department of Culture, and to build on existing capacities of local experts, resource persons and civil society organizations. As a result, institutional linkages have been forged, local experts on traditional crafts have seen increased recognition, and a degree of marketing avenue has been created through the partner NGO Tarayana Foundation; however, linkages to national tourism programs which could have ensured continuity of developing tourism packages that would benefit the target communities could not be achieved.

A general challenge in the project was that since poverty in the country is strongly linked to remoteness, the target communities were all based in remote regions where income generating conditions such as access to markets and networks with tourism programs were difficult to meet.

2.2 Activities and Results

Result 1: ‘Minority groups value heritage, assert ownership and demand rights’

Under Result 1, support for the establishment of community based institutions was facilitated to enhance ownership over preserving traditions in a meaningful way. These institutions include: Heritage Committees with overall responsibility for project decisions and activities, an expert committee to provide technical guidance, community coordinators who were responsible for project implementation and livelihood based community organizations. The documentation of the history, culture and traditions of the four communities was supported as a means of enhancing the understanding of minority cultures in the country and appreciation for cultural diversity.

Activity 1.1 Constitute Expert Committee

An Expert Committee was formed to provide professional inputs into the project activities. The Committee included representatives from the government (Gross National Happiness Commission, Department of Local Governance, Department of Culture), an autonomous agency (Tourism Council of Bhutan), the partner grassroots NGO (Tarayana Foundation) and HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Bhutan. The selection of committee members was based on linking the project to national institutions and experts in the culture sector and tourism (specifically for the livelihood potentials). The Committee reviewed and guided documentation activities, preservation priorities and provided expert opinions on research topics.

Activity 1.2 Describe target populations and generate working inventory

Target group identification

The activities of the project were based in four ethno-geographical areas in Bhutan. Four target groups were identified based on their cultural uniqueness and richness, and their high poverty status. Community consultations were held to assess interest in and willingness to participate in the project, and to generate inputs for the project. The target groups largely depend on subsistence agriculture for their livelihood. They are located in districts that have high poverty rates, ranging from 37% to 69% of the population living below the national poverty line. They are:

Lhops of Lotokuchu: Lhops are believed to be one of the earliest indigenous people of Bhutan. Their ancient tradition and culture remains largely intact. The target community comprises of 908 people (385 females and 523 males) living in three villages in Samtse District in the south of Bhutan. Lhops have a distinct language, social customs and religious belief (Bonism). They are skilled cane and bamboo craftspeople.

Rais of Lumbey: The Rais are people of Nepali ethnic origin. The Rais are divided into many subgroups and speak different dialects. The target community comprises of 383 people (197 males and 186 females) living in Lumbey village in Samtse district in the south of Bhutan. The Rais have distinct social customs and belief systems.

Khengpas of Nganglatrong: The Khengpas of Ngangla have distinct social customs, belief systems and food traditions. Their distinctive annual festival attracts large numbers of people from surrounding communities. This target community comprises of 1152 people (590 males and 562 females) living in Zhemgang district in south central Bhutan.

Sharchops of Kengkhar: Kengkhar represents one of the best traditional crafts producing communities in the country. Highly skilled crafts persons produce decorative wood carvings, altars

for religious statues, masks and casks. The target community comprises of 3,616 people (1861 males and 1755 females) living in Mongar district in eastern Bhutan.

Generation of working inventories

Through meetings and discussions in the four target communities and with inputs from key informants from the communities, inventories of the project sites were drafted with the purpose of establishing lists of tangible and intangible heritages to guide what should be documented, preserved and/or revived. The inventories have been categorized into food customs, material culture, songs and dances, local festivals, historical sites, agricultural and household items, archaeological sites and social customs. A list of potential cultural assets that could be leveraged for income generation was drawn up. Based on the inventories, video and audio documentations and research papers have been generated (details under Activity 1.5).

Activity 1.3 Develop action plans and annual plans

Intensive workshops were held in all the communities to develop a common action plan for the project. They were held at two levels: one in each of the communities, and a consolidation one at the national level.

Planning Workshops at Community Levels: Planning workshops were held in all the four communities where community specific action plans were developed, implementation modalities were finalised, and focal members responsible for the action plans were elected. To ensure a decentralized decision-making and implementation approach, it was agreed that “Heritage Committees” would be formed in all the four communities with elected members, and a “Community Coordinator” would be identified in each of the communities.

A total of 168 community members participated in the planning workshops of which approximately 40% were women.

National Level Workshop: Community representatives, members of the Heritage Committees and community coordinators from the four communities came together. Work-plans were synergised, opportunities for collaboration were explored and challenges were shared. Among the challenges, establishing viable culture-based enterprises in the two communities of the Rais and Lhops in Samtse in southern Bhutan were found challenging considering their remoteness and location outside of regions promoted for tourism. Therefore, alternative livelihood options were explored.

A total of 25 community members participated of which 7 were women.

Activity 1.4 Form Heritage Committees and appoint Community Coordinators

Heritage Committee members consist of community representatives, elderly persons, and eminent community members with extensive knowledge of the way of life, history and traditions of their communities. Each committee has four office bearers (chairperson, deputy chairperson, secretary and advisor) and members ranging from 9 to 15 persons. Of the total 63 Heritage Committee members in the four target committees, 25 were women. In the office bearers’ position, 4 out of the 16 were women. The Heritage Committees were the focal institutions responsible for advising and planning activities in their respective communities.

A Community Coordinator for each of the target community was selected in consultation with the respective Heritage Committee Members. They supported the planning, implementation and reporting of the project. 1 out of the 4 Coordinators was a woman.

The Heritage Committee, the Expert Committee (described under Activity 1.1) and the position of the Community Coordinators are interlinked and integrated into the planning, implementation and monitoring framework of the project.

Activity 1.5 Systematic collection and recording of cultural heritage

This activity was carried out based on plans drawn up in the community planning workshops and national workshop (under Activity 1.3). Different methodologies were used to collect and record the cultural heritages of the four target communities.

Visual (photographic) documentation: schools and non-formal education centres in target communities were used as entry points for identifying and documenting customs and traditions in their own communities. Students and non-formal education learners were taught basic photography skills by a professional photographer and were engaged in photo documentation and exhibition. In addition to the documentation, the process of involving target communities, especially school children, contributed towards discussions on cultural diversity in the schools, and exchanges between youth and elders in the communities.

Audio visual documentations: 6 video documents were produced on local festivals, unique rituals, and production of traditional crafts. 2 audio recordings of songs have been made. Prior to the documentation process, discussions were held with the Heritage Committee and community members on documentation as a way of increasing awareness about their cultural heritage. The greater visibility and awareness outside the target communities was seen as a way of enhancing the income generating potentials of cultural knowledge and skills. Village elders were engaged as resource persons in the documentation process and advised the project on their priorities for documentation. Their active participation and the project's high appreciation of their knowledge were seen to enhance their profile as cultural experts in the communities.

The documentations are being catalogued after which they will be archived with the National Library of Bhutan and made accessible to the public, researchers and scholars in the future.

Researches: 6 research papers were commissioned to national institutions and individual researchers to explore traditional customs, architecture, and crafts in the four target communities. The papers not only document what exists but analyse the challenges and opportunities that have arisen as a result of modernization on tangible and intangible cultural practices in the target communities. The papers have been published into monographs and will be made accessible through the National Library, the Department of Culture, and relevant educational institutes (details under A3.2).

RESULT 2: Improved capacities for cultural preservation, documentation of existing traditions, collection of material culture, establishment of heritage sites and museums contribute towards sustaining and preserving traditions.

Under Result 2, one of the four target communities has successfully marketed and generated income from three products (wooden containers, altar carvings, and masks and decorative wood carvings), while the other communities have taken steps to initiate small-scale production. Heritage awareness campaigns resulted in the identification of material and non-material cultural attributes that the target communities felt were significant for their community identity. For their revival and promotion, capacities of local institutions (heritage committees, community coordinators, associations, community culture centers) and partners (schools, researchers, national institutions) were enhanced.

Activity 2.1. Formal tertiary education

This activity had aimed to support capacity building leading to four PhD or master degrees in fields of anthropology, archaeology, folklore, history, and sociology, which are currently under-funded in Bhutan. However, the project was not able to implement the activity (reasons explained under the section 2.3 Activities Planned and Not Implemented).

Activity 2.2. Capacity of local promoters developed

From the very start of the project, the Heritage Committee members have been engaged in leading, managing and taking decisions on project initiatives in their respective target community. They identified cultural assets in their community and were engaged in discussions on preservation measures (e.g. preserving identified cultural assets through museums, documentations) and building on these assets for income generation (e.g. identification of crafts that could be produced for urban markets). With the objective to raise their awareness on the potential benefits of leveraging their culture and traditions for tourism, the project organized exposure trips to culture based tourism in Nepal (Kathmandu, Pokhara and Sikles) and India (Kolkata and Purulia) for 27 Heritage Committee members and advisors.. The exposure visits focused on two aspects: traditional crafts production skills and techniques, and marketing crafts for tourism. An additional component that the participants found particularly useful was the concept of home stays for tourism. As a result of the visits and complementary in-country trainings, particularly the target community of Kengkhar has successfully produced and marketed 3 products (wooden containers, altar carvings, and masks and decorative wood carvings) in the capital Thimphu while two target communities have initiated income generating activities (cane/bamboo in Ngangla/Zhemgang; honey production in Lotokuchu). 7 *Tshogpas* (associations) have emerged, 4 of which focus on particular income generation products and the rest on performing arts (details under A2.5).



Training in silver smithy

All the 4 Community Coordinators were trained in basic computer operation skills, interview techniques, identification of tangible and intangible cultural assets, and inventorying and cataloguing of material culture.

Activity 2.3. Provide inputs to educational institutions

To contribute towards strengthening the research capacity of educational institutions, 14 researchers were supported to carry out research in the four target communities. A forum was organised to enable the researchers to share their work and to network with other institutes and scholars in the country and abroad. 4 Bhutanese institutions (two Colleges of Education, Royal Thimphu College, and the Institute of Language and Cultural Studies), researchers from the government and private training institutes, and regional scholars and researchers from Nepal, India, and Sweden participated.

Three schools were partners of the project in exploring and documenting cultural diversity in the target communities. Students were introduced to digital photography and documented a wide range of cultural heritage and practices. This was done under the supervision of a cultural and visual art expert from Switzerland. The products of the documenting process were disseminated through interactive exhibitions in five locations to representatives from the government, civil society organizations, the media, educational institutions and international development partners through exhibitions led by participating students and members of heritage committee.

Activity 2.4 Heritage awareness campaigns, identify needs

Heritage awareness campaigns were held in all the target communities with the participation of 314 community members. These campaigns resulted in: inventories of cultural heritage and traditions, a list of traditional skills and practices with potentials to be turned into income generating opportunities, and prioritised activities that the communities felt were important for their community identity. The income generating initiatives and preservation efforts supported through the project were based on these working inventories. The process was supported by local governments.

During the heritage campaigns, the need for specific committees and/or associations focusing on the preservation of particular forms of heritage (song, material culture, etc.) were identified. As a result, in addition to the 4 Heritage Committees - one in each target community - 3 performing arts groups and 4 associations of crafts-persons were formed (details under A2.5).

Activity 2.5. Revive and secure preservation of customs

Each participating community was selected because of the distinctiveness of their cultural attributes. Examples of these include: distinct musical heritage (folk songs and dances, musical instruments), crafts, eating habits, and traditional sports. In all the four target communities, preservation and revival activities of skills and customs prioritised by the communities were done through the following steps:

- Heritage campaigns to develop inventories of customs/traditions
- Community prioritization of customs/traditions based on their judgment of significance to their unique identity
- Establishment of committees/groups/associations focusing on the preservation, revival and/or leveraging (for income) of particular customs/traditions
- Knowledge and skills exchanges between communities
- Preservation/revival/leveraging support with resource persons from within the communities and with experts from other communities.

Several community based informal organizations have emerged as the main actors to revitalise and create economic incentives for cultural preservation:

Sl. No.	Groups and Associations	Remarks
1.	Murung Jandhop and Troezo Tshogpa	A group with 22 members specializing in creating wooden containers and metal smithy in Murung in Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan
2.	Nanarik Bap and Patra Tshogpa	A group with 22 members specialising in mask-making and wood carving in Nanarik in Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan
3	Yudarik Shazo Tshogpa	A group with 17 specialising in wood turning and carving in Yudarik in Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan
4	Tongla Choeshum Tshogpa	A group with 22 members specialising in altar carving in Tongla in Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan

The above groups focus on traditional specialities that offer potentials for income generation. All the groups are in the target community of Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan. They have successfully built on their long tradition of producing wood based handicrafts and metal smithy and have marketed their products in the capital using outlets provided through Tarayana: *Jandhop* (wooden containers) with intricate metal and silver work around the base, centre and rim; *Baps* and *Patra* (masks and decorative wood carvings); and *Choshum* (altars). Two other income focused groups have emerged: Nganglatrong cane and bamboo crafts group with 27 members in the target community of Nganglatrong in south-central Bhutan, and the Lotokuchu bee keepers' group with 28 members in the target community of Lotokuchu in southern Bhutan. However, significant sale of products has not taken place within the project period.

Three of the four target community groups have expressed high interest in reviving songs and dances that are unique to their area. They have formed performing arts groups - Lumbay Performing Arts Group, Lotokuchu Performing Arts Group and Nganglatrong Performing Arts Group - dedicated to identification, revival and performances of traditional music, songs and dances. One of the groups has taken initiatives to engage young people and students with the aim of promoting their interests in an important part of their intangible heritage. The groups have taken active part in cultural events in the capital Thimphu, bringing diversity and raising awareness in such forums.

Activity 2.6. Implement preservation of village and other structures

The Heritage Committees held consultations with respective communities to identify physical structures which were considered significant by the communities and warranted restoration and preservation. Such structures are generally sites where people congregate to worship and celebrate their joint cultural and social association. Restoration and preservation activities were carried out for a prioritised list developed by the Heritage Committee members in consultation with the target communities:

Nganglatrong: preservation and restoration activities were done in the hubs for cultural, religious and social activities for the people of Ngangla and sites where major community festivals take place at regular intervals. Preservation works on the paintings in the community temple, the expansion of the community amphitheatre and sanitation facilities at the community culture centre were done.

Kengkhar: restoration activities were done in the religious and social festival ground near a historical community temple. This is the venue where a locally revered religious festival is performed for people in an around Kengkhar.

Lotokuchu: protection and preservation works were done in important ancient ritual sites for the Lhuu (serpent deity). This activity has given these ritual sites renewed significance to the Lhop community.

Lumbay: protection and preservation activities were done in two ritual sites dedicated to the earthly deities, Aitabari and Sansari. Aitabari and Sansari pujas are sacred rituals observed by the Rais and is an occasion when all the people of the village congregate to celebrate their deities.

Activity 2.7. Establish community museums (Community Culture Centres)

Four community culture centres have been established, one in each target community. The centres serve as community meeting space and as museums showcasing selected customs and traditions of each community. The centres hold household utility objects, handicrafts, and agricultural tools. The entire process of establishing the centres and identification of display items contributed towards discussions on cultural diversity and increased capacity in preservation and management. A purpose of the centres is to eventually become an attraction for heritage based tourism as a means of generating income for the community.

Activity 2.8. Collection of material culture

In relation to Activity 2.7, a number of material cultures to be displayed in the community culture centres and for exhibitions (local, national and international) have been collected. The collection is based on the working inventories developed by the Heritage Committees. A modest fund to purchase cultural artefacts has been provided by the project. The community culture centres maintain a catalogue of the artefacts that have been procured and displayed at the centres.

RESULT 3: Channels for disseminating information on cultural tradition and for exchanging cultural experiences are developed.

Under the third result, different avenues were explored to facilitate access to the research papers, outcomes of conferences, and photo, audio and video documentations done on the four communities. Such access aims at creating awareness, informing and engaging the general public, policy makers, educational institutions and scholars on the diversity of cultural heritage and their significance to the identity and livelihood of small groups of the population.

Activity 3.1. Generate websites – digitally store and present information

A website – www.bhutan-cultural-diversity.bt - has been developed with the objective of providing web-based access to the documents generated as a result of the project. The website could only be hosted late in the project implementation period due to the lack of any substantive materials to host. The longer term perspective is to integrate the website with all its contents into a nationally owned and managed archive with the National Library of Bhutan.

Activity 3.2. Scholarly books (2) and scientific publications

The project supported six research papers undertaken by 14 researchers from 5 national institutions from the government, the Royal University of Bhutan, and the private sector. The papers have been published as monographs, each providing insights into a particular community or specific cultural attributes within the communities. The research proposals were selected by the expert committee and HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation. A brief overview of the topics and the researchers are as follows:

Study on the local architecture in Nganglatrong as a way of understanding different dimensions of the community's culture: this was done by 2 heritage conservationists from the Department of Culture, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, based in the capital Thimphu.

Research on the socio-economic transformation and changes among the Lotokuchu community: this was done by 3 lecturers from the Samtse College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan, based in southern Bhutan.

Study on the socio-economic and cultural life of the community of Nganglatrong: this was done by a group of 4 researchers and audio-visual specialists from the Institute of Language and Cultural Studies, Royal University of Bhutan, based in central Bhutan.

Study on the wooden handicrafts of Kengkhar as a way of alleviating poverty: this was done by 2 lecturers from the Paro College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan, based in western Bhutan.

Study on the impact of modernization on the tradition and culture of the Rai community of Lumbay: this was done by 2 lecturers from the Samtse College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan, based in southern Bhutan.

Study on a unique ritual among the Doyas to appease their guardian deities: this was done by a researcher from the Institute of Management Studies, a private institute based in the capital.

Activity 3.3. Participation in national and international workshops and conferences

A part of the dissemination plan of the project was to use platforms provided by national and international workshops and conferences to disseminate information on the target communities and facilitate discussions. The project organised photography exhibitions and shared information and documentations, its experiences and lessons in working on cultural conservation and cultural heritage-based income generation in the four target communities in the following conferences:

4th SSEASR International Conference: Mountains in the Religions of South and Southeast Asia in Bhutan, 2011: A photo exhibition was organised as a side event to highlight activities of the project in the four target communities. A high level of interest in cultural heritages of the communities was generated among the participants.

UNESCO Capacity Building Workshop on Implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Bhutan, 2012: The project participated as one of the national counterparts in the workshop and shared its experiences on identifying and conserving intangible cultural heritages in the four target communities.

ICIMOD Gender and Sustainable Mountain Development in a Changing World, International Conference in Bhutan, 2012: The topic proposed by the project on “Traditional Crafts production and Gender” was selected through a competitive process. The project made a presentation on evolving gender roles in traditional crafts production in two of its target communities.

International Conference on Leveraging Cultural Diversity in Thimphu, 2013: The project organized an international conference titled “Leveraging Cultural Diversity” in collaboration with a national institute, the Royal Thimphu College. The aim was to exchange experiences on social and economic empowerment of diverse ethnic groups between rural development practitioners and scholars in Bhutan, the region and beyond. The conference addressed four major themes: ethnographic descriptions of lesser known, culturally distinctive, marginalized communities; methods used to document and describe threatened culture; different ways of leveraging cultural diversity; and sharing experiences and discussions on the project and the outcomes of the 6 researches supported by the project.

80 participants from Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sweden participated in the conference. Among the participants, 30 members from the four target communities actively participated in the panel discussions and exhibitions of their food traditions crafts and music. Documents produced through the project stimulated discussions and reflections on equal opportunities for and recognition of small and culturally distinct communities.

RESULT 4: Appreciation for cultural traditions contributes towards better understanding between groups, better social standing of marginalized groups and reduces discrimination

Under the fourth result, national events on creating awareness on culturally distinct communities, community exchanges, and activities involving schools in documenting processes have helped to reach a wide range of the general public, government stakeholders, civil society organizations and the youth. Of note is that exchange visits between communities have prompted sharing of crafts production and quality improvements ideas and skills, specifically on wood based crafts.

Activity 4.1. Awareness campaign and competitions in Bhutanese schools

Four awareness activities were conducted involving schools in the four target communities. Students were engaged in exploring different dimensions of their cultural heritage through photography, interviews with village elders and exhibitions by the students to their parents, local governments and the public of their respective communities. Part of the documentations done by the students in the rural communities was brought to urban schools in the capital Thimphu by four students from the target communities with the aim of sharing their experiences and cultural backgrounds with their urban counterparts. The experiences from these awareness activities were compiled into a pictorial

book “Bhutan’s Culture Diversity - Life and Culture in Four Remote Communities in Bhutan” and forms an important part of the documents generated by the project.



Students queuing up for photo exhibition

Activity 4.2. Exchange visits between communities

Exchange visits were organised with the following objectives:

- To exchange experiences and skills between the target communities.
- To promote understanding for different cultural traditions between communities and between generations.

Learning group management, production skills and exploring markets from Kengkhar: Kengkhar target community in eastern Bhutan has highly skilled wood-based crafts persons. The project facilitated the mobilization of the community into groups specializing in specific skills, and to produce and market their products. To share this modality of income generation, 25 community members from the other three target communities were introduced to the entire process of group formation and management, the production of *Jandhops*, *Baps* and *Patras* (wooden containers, masks and wood carvings), and marketing avenues.

Exploring use of simple technologies in crafts production: Trashiyangtse in eastern Bhutan is known for its highly skilled wood works. To enhance the quality and diversify products from Kengkhar and to learn to use simple labour saving devices, 21 artisans from Kengkhar made a study visit to the institute of traditional arts and crafts and to local experts in Trashiyangtse.

Networking among Community Coordinators: the community coordinators of the four target communities have been networking through face-to-face meetings and joint visits to project locations to share modalities of implementation and monitoring of project activities, common challenges, and experiences.

Activity 4.3. Exhibitions

The target communities were engaged in two complementary categories of exhibitions: one focusing on marketing of their products, and the other focusing on creating awareness on their unique cultural heritages.

Marketing of products: The local NGO implementation partner for the project, Tarayana Foundation, facilitated the introduction of products from the four target communities to potential markets in the capital. For three consecutive years (2011 – 2013), the project supported artisans

and performing artists from the four communities to participate in crafts display and marketing events organised by the Tarayana Foundation.

Dissemination to promote awareness, understanding and acknowledgement: The international conference (A3.3), photo exhibitions and exchanges (A4.1), side events in conferences in the capital (A3.3), and exhibitions in Sweden (in 3 locations) and Switzerland have contributed towards promoting greater awareness and understanding of the people and cultures of the target communities.

RESULT 5: Tourism (national and international) driven by interest in cultural traditions provides income opportunities for marginalized groups, reduces migration and contributes towards preservation of traditions.

Under the fifth result, skills training on potential income generating products have been done, informal associations around specific products have emerged, and market access for some of the products has been created to a certain extent through the partner NGO, Tarayana Foundation. However, deriving economic benefits from tourism has been a huge challenge considering the remoteness and lack of complementary tourism services in these communities.

Activity 5.1. Train local people in tourism related opportunities

With the objective of raising awareness on developing products and marketing specifically towards the tourism sector, the following skills building activities were implemented through a combination of study visits, use of national experts as trainers, peer learning, and field visits to relevant national institutions:

- 27 Heritage Committee members and advisors participated in study visits on culture-based tourism to Nepal and India (description under A2.2).
- 28 members of the community of Lotokuchu underwent skills training in bee keeping and local honey production with technical assistance from national experts from a local beekeepers’ association in a neighbouring district. This was a result of efforts to explore the revival of local products other than crafts, specifically for the target communities where skills in producing crafts with economic viability have died out or the natural resources to produce them are not adequately available.
- 25 members from the community of Lumbay explored income generation through processing and marketing smoked local fish, and thereby visited a national fish centre to better understand the viability of commercial fish rearing and to seek technical assistance.

Activity 5.2. Enterprise development

The project initiated a range of activities to promote small scale enterprise development that capitalizes on specific heritages and cultural assets. To ensure continuity, the enterprise development activities were linked to market avenues of the local NGO partner Tarayana Foundation. Intensive skills development to improve quality of products has been carried out for the 4 income-generation groups (description of groups under A2.5) using local experts from neighboring districts and national institutions specializing in relevant areas. A system of training of peer trainers from the groups/associations was used where relevant:

Sl. No.	Training topics	Number of Days and Trainees
1.	Training on metal band making for the Murung Jandhop and Troezo Tshogpa (association specializing in creating wooden containers and metal smithy)	21 members from this association were trained on making metal bands for the <i>Jandhops</i> (wooden containers). The training was conducted by a highly skilled local metal smith.

Sl. No.	Training topics	Number of Days and Trainees
2.	Skills up-gradation in mask carving for the Nanarik Bap and Patra Tshogpa (association specializing in mask making and wood carving)	10 members from this association were trained on improving the quality of mask carving by an expert mask carver from a neighboring district (Trashiyangtse).
3.	Basic metal smithy training for members of the Murung Jandhop and Troezo Tshogpa (association specializing in creating wooden containers and metal smithy)	6 members from this association were trained on general metal smithy with experts from the National Institute of Zorig Chusum (13 traditional arts and crafts)
4.	Training on bee keeping for Lotokuchu bee keepers' group (also described under A5.1)	28 members from this group were trained on bee keeping by 2 expert bee keepers from a local bee keepers' association in a neighboring district (Surey in Sarpang). Sale of products from this group has not taken place within the project period.
5.	Orientation of members from the communities of Lumbay and Lotokuchu in Pisciculture	25 members from two target communities were oriented on pisciculture at a national fish centre in the south of the country. This orientation aimed at exploring income generation through processing and marketing smoked local fish. Sale of products from this group has not taken place within the project period.
	Total	90 members of groups and associations in target communities trained for 947 participant days

Three other income focused groups have emerged with the aim of marketing products to urban towns in Bhutan and the tourism sector:

- The Tongla Choesum Tshogpa (altar carving, 22 members) consists of skilled members and therefore the project focused on mobilising them for commercial production rather than skills training. The group has been able to enter the nearby markets and have received orders for their products from individuals around the country.
- Yudirik Shagzoh Tshogpa (wood turning and carving, 17 members) also has highly skilled members. The group has also been able to market their products and have begun generating income. With the income and membership fees, the group has started a system of small scale lending within its members.
- The Nganglatrong cane and bamboo crafts group (27 members) has begun small scale production for own use but have not yet penetrated the market.

2.3 Activities planned and not implemented

Activity 2.1. Formal tertiary education

This activity had aimed to support capacity building leading to four PhD or master degrees in fields of anthropology, archaeology, folklore, history, and sociology, which are currently under-funded in Bhutan. However, the project was not able to implement the activity due to the following reasons:

- The selection requirements were: 1) Develop research proposals with target populations based on the priorities of the action plans; 2) Have research proposals accepted by the concerned

universities before applying for the project grant; 3) Have research results available at least three months before the end of the project. The duration of 3 years of the project was not adequate to meet the criteria.

- Substantial investments in researches, conferences, and different forms of documentation were planned and implemented under other results and activities such as Activity 3.2 (production of scholarly books and publications).

Therefore, during the 2nd Steering Committee meeting of the project, it was decided that the budget 3.5.3 (Support Post graduate programme- university fees) and 3.5.4 (Support Post Graduate Programme-Stipend) for activity A2.1 be reallocated towards a) capacity building of community coordinators and heritage members, b) training in cultural diversity and intercultural awareness, c) support to enterprise development, and d) a regional conference on cultural diversity in Bhutan.

The reallocation was discussed with the EU delegation on 7th March, 2012 and the project management was advised to write a proposal on the reallocation to the EU Delhi for approval. Subsequently, the reallocation was approved.

2.4 Assessment of Results

Project objectives and expected results under the “Documentation”, “Capacity building” and “Preservation” result areas remained valid in general. Research, documentation and dissemination to create awareness and enhance understanding on minority cultures has been a significant outcome of the project. The high rate of engagement of local crafts experts (e.g. wood-based craft experts from the remote district of Trashiyangtse; bee keeping and honey production skills of a local association from a neighbouring district) and village elders as trainers and resource persons was an unexpected positive result, although it was planned that there would be a certain level of their engagement. Strong emphasis was laid on linking up with key national institutions such as the Department of Culture. Such linkages helped to engage strategic stakeholders in discussions on cultural diversity and, specifically in the case of documentation and dissemination, link project activities to national programs. Facilitating the emergence of community based organizations was important and enabled the project to have a decentralised approach to decision-making. For example, the 4 Heritage Committees led the process of identifying cultural heritages that were considered important by the community for their collective identity; this process was the basis for the entire conservation efforts of the project.

The objectives and expected results under “Income Generation” result area that particularly aimed at building on cultural heritage to benefit from the tourism sector could not be fully achieved. Two of the target community sites – Kengkhar and Nganglatrong – have higher potentials for tourism related activities. Although they have not benefitted from direct tourist visits, products from Kengkhar have reached markets in the capital Thimphu targeted at tourists and similar initiatives have begun in Nganglatrong which is also located close to a national park where eco-tourism potentials are being explored by the Tourism Council of Bhutan. The remaining two sites – Lotokuchu and Lumbay – are outside the regions where tourism is promoted, thereby disconnecting them from complementary tourism infrastructure and services that would otherwise have been promoted by relevant national institutions. Therefore, a realistic option recommended by the Results Based Monitoring exercise conducted by an external evaluator, 2012, was to shift focus from tourism development to enterprise support for the four communities. This was accordingly followed and 6 income focused associations have emerged of which 4 have started generating income for the members.

A general challenge faced by the project was the expectations of target groups for conventional development benefits such as basic health, education and agriculture services, and infrastructure such as bridges and farm roads. Therefore, substantial time was spent on discussions on intangible and long term expected impacts of strengthened cultural identity and empowerment.

2.5 Outcomes for target groups

The development of community based institutions was an important strategy to provide an organized space for representatives from the target communities. Three types of local associations have emerged focusing on – heritage preservation, promotion of performing arts and leveraging traditional skills for income. These institutions became the main decision-making and implementation partners for the project and provided experiences for the target groups to negotiate priorities, make joint decisions, and to assume leadership roles.

The target community members have become active stakeholders in upholding their cultural heritage. The project has been able to draw attention to the target communities’ tangible and intangible cultural heritages, and skills in traditional crafts production. 4 of the 6 income generating associations in the target communities have successfully turned the increased awareness into an income generating opportunity.

The body of documentation that has been created on the four target communities is a significant tangible contribution to the country’s knowledge and perception on its rich cultural diversity. These communities were earlier not the subjects of systematic heritage explorations and therefore very little information existed. Dissemination of these documents through a variety of means - video, audio, photos, research papers, conferences and workshops – has enhanced awareness on the uniqueness and richness of four minority cultures. The translation of increased awareness and understanding to social empowerment is a long term impact that was difficult to measure during the life of the three-year project.

2.6 List of Publications and Dissemination

The following video and audio documents were produced on specific crafts production, rituals, festivals and music of the target communities:

Sl. No.	Documentary Films and Audio Recordings
1.	<i>The Jandhop Makers of Murung</i> (production of wooden casks in the village of Murung in eastern Bhutan)
2.	<i>Sansari Devi Puja</i> (ritual dedicated to a goddess in Lumbay in southern Bhutan)
3	<i>Aitabari and Chula Puja</i> (ritual dedicated to a god and goddess in Lumbay in southern Bhutan)
4	<i>Choedpa-lha</i> (an annual religious festival in Lower Kheng in south eastern Bhutan)
5.	<i>Tshensey</i> (an annual ritual heralding the new year in the Lhop community in southern Bhutan)
6.	<i>Dueza</i> (a local ritual in Kengkhar in eastern Bhutan)
7.	<i>Melodies from Lotokuchu</i> (audio recordings of songs from Lotokuchu in southern Bhutan)
8.	<i>Yasechemi Dundupshing</i> (audio recording of a Lhop song from southern Bhutan)

The project supported six research papers undertaken by 14 researchers from 5 national institutions from the government, the Royal University of Bhutan, and the private sector. The papers have been published as monographs, each providing insights into a particular community or specific cultural attributes within the communities:

Sl. No.	Topics of Monographs
1.	Study on the local architecture in Nganglatrong as a way of understanding different dimensions of the community's culture: this was done by 2 heritage conservationists from the Department of Culture, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, based in the capital.
2.	Research on the socio-economic transformation and changes among the Lotokuchu community: this was done by 3 lecturers from the Samtse College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan, based in southern Bhutan.
3	Study on the socio-economic and cultural life of the community of Nganglatrong: this was done by a group of 4 researchers and audio-visual specialists from the Institute of Language and Cultural Studies
4	Study on the wooden handicrafts of Kengkhar as a way of alleviating poverty: this was done by 2 lecturers from the Paro College of Education
5.	Study on the impact of modernization on the tradition and culture of the Rai community of Lumbay: this was done by 2 lecturers from the Samtse College of Education
6.	Study on a unique ritual among the Doyas to appease their guardian deities: this was done by a researcher from the Institute of Management Studies, a private institute based in the capital.

Photo documentation on various aspects of traditional life, customs and practices of the four target communities has been done:

Sl. No.	Photo Documentation
1.	Bhutan's Cultural Diversity - Life and Culture in Four Remote Communities of Bhutan: a publication of photos documenting the life, customs, rituals, food ways, art and crafts and sports of the four target communities.
2.	Life in Ngangla through the Children's eyes: a collection of photos on life in the target community of Ngangla as seen by its children and youth.
3	Variety of photo collection looking at food ways, crafts, music, tools and customs in the four target communities.

1 national photo exhibition led by four youth from target communities (A4.1), 3 exhibitions as side events in international conferences in the country (A3.3), an international conference highlighting the experiences of the project (A3.3), and use of the media to highlight project activities were done to disseminate the researches and photo documents produced with support from the project. A dissemination plan is under finalization to ensure that all the audio-visual documentations and researches are integrated into a nation-wide program initiated by Shejun (a non-government agency initiated by the national culture expert who advised the project on research conduct and publications: www.shejun.org) that seeks to document, catalogue and disseminate information on diverse cultural heritages in the entire country.

2.7 Sustainability of Project Initiatives

The entire project cycle management was designed to include strategic partner representatives from the government and autonomous agencies in the prioritization and decisions on the project. Apart from building on existing national resource persons, such an approach helped to explore ideas for integration into national programs. One concrete example is the link created with the National Library of Bhutan and *Shejun* (a non-government agency initiated by the national culture expert who advised the project on research conduct and publications: www.shejun.org). Discussions are under way to integrate the documentations produced by the project as a part of the program of these organizations to document, catalogue and ensure accessibility to the public, policy makers, and scholars through improved use of ICT to archive and access them.

Opportunities will be explored to build on the cane and bamboo initiatives of the project in Nganglatrong through possible integration into a national program on community managed forests.

2.8 Cross-cutting issues

The project paid special attention to gender equality in decision making in the community based institutions. Gender awareness formed an integral part of pre-election processes of members to the Heritage Committee and in skills development trainings. Of the total 63 Heritage Committee members in the four target committees, 40% were women and 1 of the 4 nominated Community Coordinators was a woman.

Environmental sustainability was a topic of importance in the project. Since the target communities depend on natural resources for their livelihood, including forest resources for the products they produced through the project support, tree plantations were done on community and private lands. The external results monitoring done in 2012 also notes communities' awareness on sustainable use of forest resources.

2.9 Monitoring and Evaluations

Field visits were a regular monitoring tool to monitor the effective and efficient use of inputs, implementation of activities as per the annual plans, and delivery of outputs as per the log frame. Every 6 months, interim reports from each Community Coordinator was collected and consolidated by the Project Coordinator for presentation to the Steering Committee members. The Steering Committee members examined delivery of outputs (and outcome where feasible) and approved work plans based on progress made. Feedback from the target communities were collected at regular intervals through interactive sessions in the communities during field visits: generally, there was appreciation for the efforts to enhance the status of minority cultures in the country; there were also high expectations of immediate benefits that the communities felt were not met promptly enough.

An external results monitoring was done in 2012 (Karen McHugh, ECORYS Research and Consulting); the main findings and recommendations were: the project has achieved a lot in terms of cultural preservation (documentation, dissemination) and demonstrated high potential for impact on income generation; the focus at the latter part of the phase needed to shift to enterprise support in the four target communities. Accordingly, the latter part of the project focused almost entirely on income generating skills development, quality improvements through linking with a national quality standards body (Agency for Promotion of Indigenous Crafts of Bhutan) and exploring marketing avenues.

An external project evaluation was completed in November 2013 by a national consultancy firm (Institute for Management Studies). The main findings were: the interventions of the project were timely, considering the rapid modernization processes; the project did not have adequate time to

fully develop the enterprises development interventions; the income generation activities initiated by the project have potentials for greater economic benefits since the government intends to open up more regions in the country to tourism; the absence of a ‘consolidation phase investment’ (referring to recommendation by the evaluators for another 3 year investment to take forward certain activities) raises certain sustainability questions. The main recommendations were: follow-up skills development for income generation and strengthening existing associations; supporting community groups to diversify into other income generating areas.

3 Partners and other Co-operation

3.1 Relationship between the formal partners of this action

The involvement and collaboration with Tarayana Foundation, the main implementation partner of the project, has helped to enhance the effectiveness of the project. Tarayana as an NGO with a long presence in remote communities provided the project with expertise in community mobilization and provided market linkages through its rural crafts outlets (shops and annual sale of crafts events). Tarayana’s partnership with the other formal partners was open and regular.

Other project stakeholders (Department of Local Governance, Tourism Council of Bhutan, Department of Culture and the GNH Commission) interacted on a regular basis through the Steering Committee and the Expert Committee forums. The institutional commitment from these stakeholders and their joint and timely decisions were an important asset in the project management and decision-making processes. As a culture project, the Department of Culture took the lead role in the Steering Committee meetings and facilitated contributions from the other institutions.

3.2 Continuity of partnership

Partnerships with the Department of Culture and the National Library of Bhutan will continue to implement the final stage of the dissemination plan, i.e. to ensure proper cataloguing and accessibility to the products produced through support of the project.

3.3 Relationship with State authorities and other organizations

State authorities

The identified project partners in the Steering Committee and the Expert Committee included state institutions. Their presence in planning and approval processes eased formal project implementation and management procedures. The priority placed by the State on the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage as one of the pillars of the country’s development philosophy of Gross National Happiness provided a general conducive environment for the project.

For engagement with schools, the project worked closely with the district education authorities to keep them informed.

Other organizations

The implementation of the project in the communities required the consent of the respective local governments at the district, sub-district and block levels. Therefore, representatives of local governments were always consulted prior to the planning of activities; this process led to a high level engagement and support from local governments.

The Royal University of Bhutan and institutions affiliated to it were actively engaged in the research and dissemination components of the project. The private Royal Thimphu College was the main partner in organizing the international conferences and documentation of proceedings.

3.4 Co-operation with the services of the Contracting Authority

The EU Delegation in Delhi has been actively engaged in the progress of the project and visited some of the project sites. Recommendations from such visits have been discussed in project Steering Committee meetings and incorporated into the project action plans.

4 Visibility of EU Contribution

EU visibility was ensured in the dissemination activities (exhibitions) and products (all publications including books and videos and the annual calendar for HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, 2012) where EU has been acknowledged as the donor and its logo used. The cultural exhibitions in particular received wide coverage in the national media where EU contributions were acknowledged.

The annual calendar for 2012 was dedicated to the project and featured project photographs taken from the four target communities. The calendars have been distributed widely to the various ministries and government organisations, international organisations, and schools.

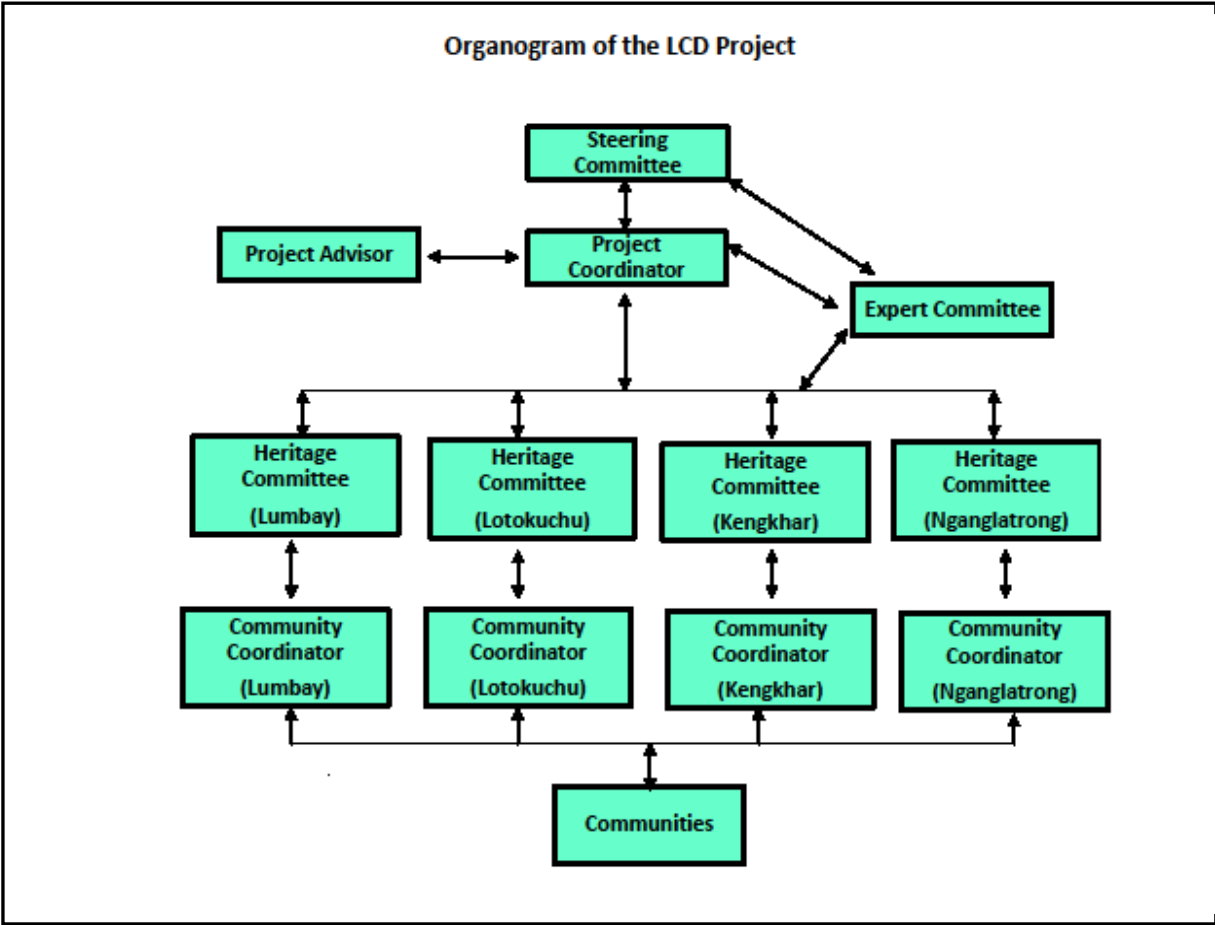
Name of the contact person for the Action: Kunzang Dorji and Tashi Pem

Signature: Sd/- Location: Thimphu

Date report due: 31/10/2013 Date report sent: 02/12/2013

Annexure 1

Organogram of the LCD Project



Annexure 2

Terms of References

Community Coordinators

- Planning, implementation of identified LCD project activities in the target area;
- Inventorying, documentation and cataloging of material culture and related indigenous practices;
- Logistic support/arrangements;
- Organization of community meetings and workshops;
- Participate in national level meeting, training, and workshops;
- Identification of cultural/traditional/indigenous resource focal persons;
- Assist researchers in the studies/research activities conducted in the area;
- Liaise with and be accountable to local heritage committee;
- Submission of quarterly progress report to the Project Coordinator; and
- Accept other duties and tasks as assigned or delegated by the project or any other new responsibilities that may emerge during the course of the project.

Heritage Committee

- Work in close coordination with the Community Coordinator;
- Identify customs, traditions and structures which warrant preservation activities;
- Identify training needs and trainees;
- Coordinate activities;
- Identify participants outgoing for visits;
- Advise on materials/items/artefacts to be used in exhibitions; and
- Provide ideas, and backstopping to the activities in the community.

Annexure 3

The names list of the **Heritage Committee Member, Community Coordinators and Core Members/Resource Persons.**

	Lotokuchu Heritage Committee	Lumbay Heritage Committee	Nganglatrong Heritage Committee	Kengkhar Heritage Committee
Chairpersons	Mr. Jouchu	Mr. Aridhoj Rai	Mr. Gembo Dorji	Mr. Ugyen
Dy. Chairpersons	Ms. Cho Lham	Ms. Phulmati Rai	Ms. Sangay Yangzom	Ms. Deki Yangzom
Committee Secretaries	Mr. Sangay Tshering	Mr. Kumbu Raj Rai	Mr. Sangay Kencho	Mr. Kunzang Wangdi
Community Coordinators	Ms. Pem Zam	Mr. Aridhoj Rai	Mr. Phurba Wangchuk	Mr. Dawa Gyelpo
Heritage Advisor	Mr. Chandra Puyel (Gup of Dophuchen Gewog)	Mr. Chandra Puyel (Gup of Dophuchen Gewog and Mr. Dhanraj Rai	Mr. Rinchen Wangdi (Gup of Ngangla Gewog)	Mr. Karma Wangdi (Gup of Kengkhar Gewog)

Core members and Resource persons

Lotokuchu	Lumbay	Nganglatrong	Kengkhar
Mr. Dai Tshering	Mr. Birdhan Rai	Mr. Dorji	Mr. Ata Chelu
Ms. Sona Om	Ms. Rani Maya Rai	Mr. Drugyel	Mr. Sonam Phuntsho
Mr. Damey	Mr. Lal Bahadur Rai	Mr. Rinchen Dakpa	Ms. Tashi Zangmo
Mr. Danka Chen	Mr. Somraj Rai	Ms. Yeshey	Mr. Rinchen Wangdi
Ms. Kunti	Ms. Mongalimaya Rai	Mr. Sigay Dorji	Mr. Phuntsho
Ms. Jajama	Ms. Bishnu Maya Rai	Ms. Yeshey Lhaden	Mr. Dendup
Ms. Ashi Bida	Mr. Aita Bhir Rai	Ms. Dechen Wangmo	Ms. Sangay Tenzin
Ms. Kabi Lham	Mr. Harka B. Rai	Ms. Pemo	Ms. Rinzin Wangmo
Chapchu Lhop	Mr. Bir Dhoj Rai	Ms. Kezang	Ms. Pem Zam
Ms. Pasang Lham	Mr. Karna Raj Rai		Mr. Tashi Tenzin
Ms. Norzim	Ms. Padam maya rai		Mr. Chodrup
	Ms. Bibi Maya Rai		Mr. Sangay Tshewang
			Mr. Yozer Dorji
			Mr. Phuntsho
			Mr. Yonten Gyamtsho

Annexure 4

Summary of quantifiable results

Expected Result	Objectively verifiable indicators of Achievement	Achievements
Result 1. Minority groups value heritage, assert ownership and demand rights	Working inventory of all four communities completed	Working inventories of traditions and other important forms of cultural heritage in all four communities completed
	Heritage committees in all four communities formed	Heritage committees in all the four communities formed and functioning
	Audiovisual records (including songs, rituals etc) Documentary films (4)	8 audio visual records from all the four communities carried out (list reported under 2.6)
Result 2: Improved capacities for cultural preservation, documentation of existing traditions, collection of material culture, establishment of heritage sites and museums contribute towards sustaining and preserving traditions.	• Supported tertiary education MA or PhD degrees (4)	Budget reallocated.
	• Training for local promoters (minimum 200 participant days)	15 members x 9days=135 participant days. 5 members x 7 days= 35 participant days 9 members x12 days= 108 participants days TOTAL 278 participant days
	• Contribution to educational institutions (guest lectures, competitions, exchange visits)	Commissioning of research papers to the Teaching Faculty of 4 educational institutions and conduct of international conference to promote exchanges with scholars in the region and abroad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samtse College of Education • Institute of Language and Cultural Studies • Paro College of Education • Royal Thimphu College.
	• Heritage awareness campaigns (8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lotokuchu : 2 times (20-22, May 2011 and 26 Jan, 2012) • Lumbay: 2 times (23-24, May 2011 and 28 Jan,2012) • Nganglatrong : 2 times (1-2 June,2011 and 10 Jan,2012) • Kengkhar: 2 times (7-8 June,2011 and 3rd Oct, 2011) TOTAL 8 Awareness campaigns
• Village committees and associations targeting preservation (10)	13 committees/association formed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Murung Jandhop and Troezo Tshogpa 2. Nanarik Bap and Patra Tshogpa 3. Yudarik Shazo Tshogpa 4. Tongla Choeshum Tshogpa 	

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Lumbay Performing Arts Tshogpa 6. Lotokuchu Performing Arts Tshogpa 7. Nganglatrong Performing Arts Tshogpa 8. Lumbay Heritage Committee 9. Lotokuchu Heritage Committee 10. Nganglatrong Heritage Committee 11. Kengkhar Heritage Committee 12. Nganglatrong cane and bamboo crafts group 13. Lotokuchu Beekeeping Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training to revive skills/customs (minimum 400 participant days) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training of metal band making skills for Jandhop in Murung: 21 participants x20 days = 420 participant days. 2. Training of skills up-gradation in Mask carving: 10 participants x16 days = 160 participant days 3. Metal Smithy Training (6 participants x16 days = 96 participant days <p>TOTAL 676 participant days</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures secured and preserved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 sites in Lumbay • 2 sites in Nganglatrong • 4 sites in Lotokuchu • 1 in Kengkhar <p>TOTAL 9 sites preserved/restored</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum at target sites (4) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cultural Centre at Lotokuchu 2. Culture Centre at Lumbay 3. Culture Centre at Kengkhar 4. Culture Centre at Nganglatrong <p>TOTAL 4 Cultural Centres/Museums</p>
<p>Result 3: Channels for disseminating information on cultural tradition and for exchanging cultural experiences are developed.</p>	<p>Websites for students (interactive 1) and general audience (1)</p>	<p>One website hosted: www.bhutan-cultural-diversity.bt/</p>
	<p>Scholarly books (2) Scientific publications (10)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 6 monographs produced by 14 researchers from 5 national institutions in the country 2. 1 proceeding and contributions from the international workshop hosted by the project in collaboration with the Royal Thimphu College 3. 1 compilation of pictures and explanations on aspects of traditions and life titled, “Bhutan’s Cultural Diversity – Life and Culture in four remote communities of Bhutan”

	Participation in national (10) and international workshops and conferences (10)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International Conference on Mountains in the Religions of South and Southeast Asia: Place, Culture and Power, 30 June-3rd July, 2011. 2. UNESCO Capacity Building Workshop on Implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Bhutan (14-18 May, 2012) 3. Gender and sustainable Mountain Development in a Changing World, International Conference, Thimphu, Bhutan, 15-19 October, 2012. 4. International Conference on Leveraging Cultural Diversity, 5-6 June, 2013, Thimphu <p>TOTAL = 4 conferences</p>
<p>Result 4: Appreciation for cultural traditions contributes towards better understanding between groups, better social standing of marginalized groups and reduces discrimination</p>	Exchange visits in Bhutan (10)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Four Students from Kagtong Community Primary School participated in Photo exhibition in Thimphu (4-18th May,2011) 2. Exchange Visits for Lotokuchu and Lumbay at Sengdyhen Lower Secondary School for culture exhibition (17th December, 2011) 3. Exchange Visit of Lotokuchu, Lumbay and Ngnaglatrong communities to Kengkhar, Murung and Nararik (16-18 December, 2012) (3 Events) 4. Community Coordinators of Nganglatrong and Kengkhar exchange visit to Lotokuchu and Lumbay (December-2011) 5. 21 Artisans from Kengkhar visit Trashiyangtse to exchange knowledge on woodcraft enterprises. <p>TOTAL 7 exchanges</p>
	Exchange visits in EU countries (1)	<p>Visit to Switzerland and Sweden by 10 member cultural delegation consisting of students and artisans of the four communities and project staff. Several exhibitions were held during the visit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Exhibition and workshop at Kantonsschule Alpenquai Luzern b) Exhibition of Photographs and cultural shows at Romero Haus Cultural Exhibition (International) c) Exhibition and Workshop in , Skärgårdsstadsskolan, Tre Gruvors väg 1, Åkersberga) d) Exhibition and workshop in Solskiftesskolan, Solskiftesvägen 8, Åkersberga e) Exhibition and Workshop at Carlssons Skola, Kommendörsgatan 31, Stockholm

	<p>Awareness campaigns in schools in Bhutan (3)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photo Exhibition: Life in Ngangla through the children's eyes (4th-18th May,2011) 2. Local culture exhibition in Kengkhar Lower Secondary School on 11th Nov. 2011 3. Celebrating local culture and traditions of Lumbay and Lotokuchu: Sengdyen Lower secondary school (9-10 December,2011) 4. Kagtong Community Primary School Exhibition on 11th November,2012. 5. Local Culture and Traditional Knowledge in Kengkhar, 17th December,2012. <p>TOTAL 5 awareness campaigns in Schools</p>
	<p>Participation in exhibition (national 5, international 1)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crafts and Cultural Exhibition programme at Tarayana Fair-2011 (National) 2. Crafts and Cultural Exhibition programme at Tarayana fair-2012 (National) 3. Crafts and Cultural Exhibition programme at Tarayana Fair: 2103 (National) 4. Exhibition of LCD project in the International Conference on Mountains in the Religions of South and Southeast Asia: Place, Culture and Power, 30th June-3rd July,2011 (National) 5. Exhibition of Local Foods and Cultural program at the LCD Conference, RTC-2013(National/International) <p>Refer Exchange Visits in EU countries for list of international exhibitions</p>
<p>Result 5. Tourism (national and international) driven by interest in cultural traditions provides income opportunities for marginalized groups, reduces migration and contributes towards preservation of traditions</p>	<p>Entrepreneurship/tourism (minimum 300 participant days)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training of 15 member community representatives at Banglanatak/Kolkata (15 participants x 8 days=120 participant days) 2. Study tour of 9 member Community members to Nepal (9 participants x12 days =108 participant days) 3. Training of 25 member community representatives of Lumbay and Lotokuchu in Gelephu (25 participants x 3 days=75 participant days) 4. Training of Bee Keepers of Lotokuchu (28 participants x 7 days =196 participant days) <p>TOTAL: 499 participant Days</p>
	<p>Local small enterprises established (8)</p>	<p>6 groups and associations focusing on specific trades have emerged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bamboo and Cane Group, Nganglatrong 2. Lotokuchu Bee Keepers Group, Lotokuchu. 3. Murung Jandhop and Troezo Group, Kengkhar 4. Nanarik Bap and Patra Tshogpa, Kengkhar 5. Tongla Choesum Group, Kengkhar 6. Yudirik Shagzoh Tshogpa, Kengkhar

