



THE MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE INDIA



ICIMOD



Khangchendzonga Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KLCDI)- India

G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development

Contact:

Sikkim Regional Centre: Scientist In-charge, G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang-Gangtok, Sikkim 737101, India Tel +91-3592- 237328
Email: dr.rajeshjoshi@gmail.com

Head Quarters: Director, G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand 263643, India Tel +91-5962- 241015, 241041; Email: psdir@gbpihed.nic.in

© GBPNIHESD 2019



Khangchendzonga Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KLCDI)- India : An Implementation Phase

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

Considering the above facts, a preparatory phase was initiated by developing Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) and to prepare the supporting documents like Feasibility Assessment Report (FAR), Conservation and Development Strategy (CDS), and Implementation Plan of the KL-India. In continuation, an intermediary phase was successfully completed with: i) Baseline information for the socio-economic and ecosystem status, and ii) Participatory Bioresource Management Plans for the three identified pilot sites of KL-India.

The implementation phase was initiated for the five years with following broad objectives:

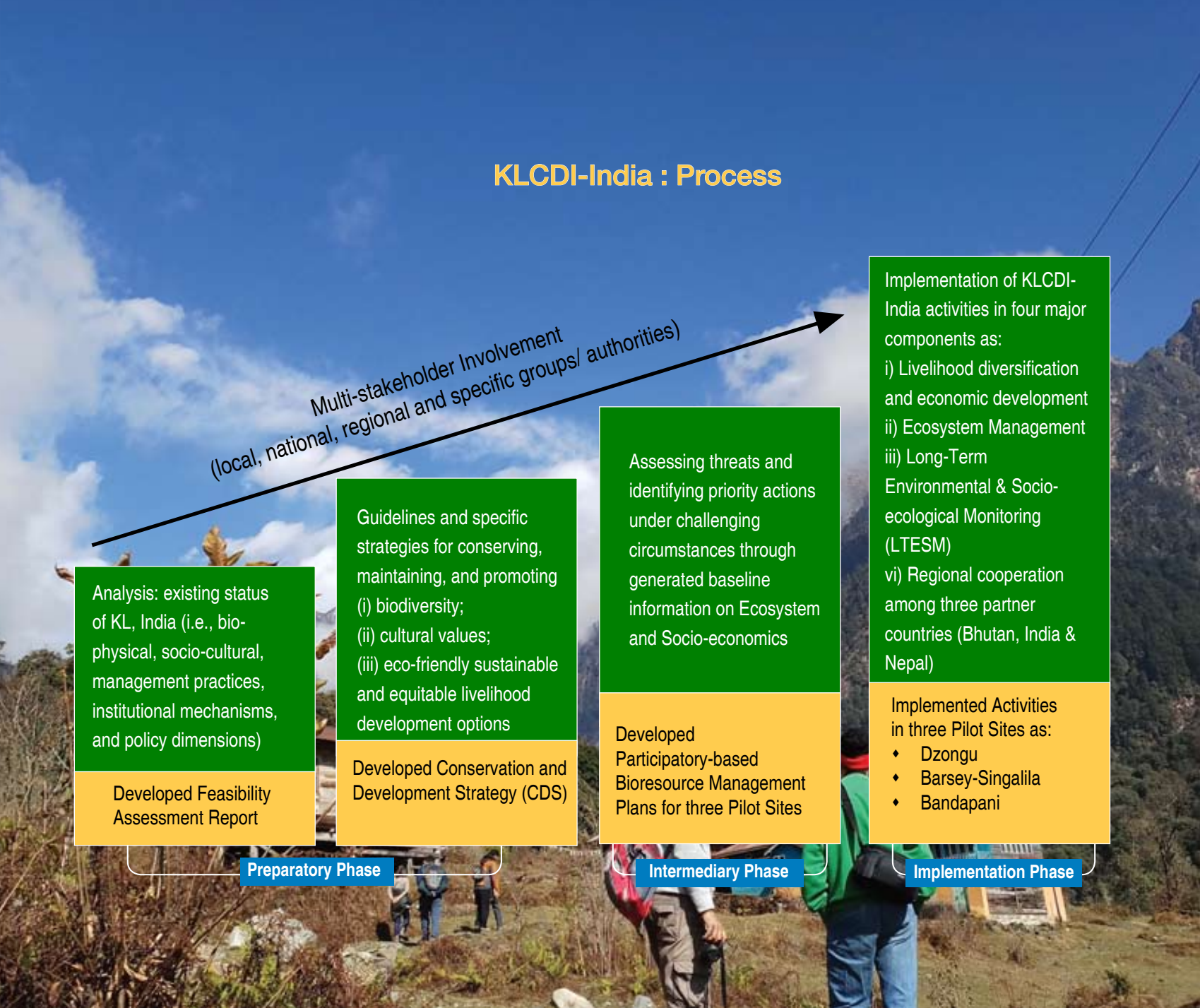
- i) Enhance well-being of women, men, and children in the landscape;
- ii) Improve ecosystem management and conservation through inclusive and equitable benefit sharing of natural resources, community-based approaches, and economic valuation and incentive mechanisms;
- iii) Strengthen local and national level mechanisms for evidence-based decision-making through long-term environmental and socio-ecological monitoring; and
- iv) Strengthen regional cooperation for transboundary

Pilot Sites

1. Dzongu-It falls under the Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR), a UNESCO's World Heritage site and reserve for Lepcha tribe;
2. Barsey-Singalila- It shares the part of Darjeeling, West Bengal having the part of West Sikkim and importance for its transboundary nature with Nepal and the ecological values of the two protected areas, Singalila National Park, West Bengal and Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, Sikkim;
3. Bandapani- It includes the Indo-Bhutan transboundary part of Alipurduar district of West Bengal and is situated in the Indo-Bhutan boarder, a transboundary in nature.

VISION

The Khangchendzonga landscape represents the biological, social and cultural entity, which is continue celebrated by the community living in the landscape through equitable access and conservation of natural resources.



KLCDI, India programme

Guiding Agency: Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India

Facilitating Agency: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal

Lead Agency: G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development, India

National Partners: Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department (FEWMD), Govt. of Sikkim and Directorate of Forests (DoFs), Govt. of West Bengal

Collaborators

The Mountain Institute (TMI)-India, Gangtok

Himalayan Nature & Adventure Foundation (HNAF), Siliguri

Mutanchi Lom Aal Shezum (MLAS), Dzongu

Sikkim University, Gangtok

Department of Animal Husbandry, Livestock and Fisheries, Govt. of Sikkim

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Gangtok

Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC), Yuksam

Diocesan Integrated Society for Holistic Action (DISHA), Kalimpong

Mr. Renzino Lepcha (Ecotourism Expert)

Programme Coordinator: KLCDI

Dr. Nakul Chettri
ICIMOD, Kathmandu , Nepal

National Coordinator: KLCDI-India

Dr. Ranbeer S. Rawal
Director
GBPNIHESD, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263643 Uttarakhand, India

Nodal Person/Scientist: KLCDI-India

Dr. Rajesh Joshi
Scientist E and Scientist In-Charge
Investigator
Dr. Kailash S. Gaira
Tech. Gr. 1(IV)
GBPNIHESD, Sikkim Regional Centre, Pangthang, Gangtok – 737101 (Sikkim), India

Project Manager

Dr. Aseesh Pandey

Junior Field Researcher

Mr. Nyindo Lepcha

Secretariat / Field Assistant

Ms. Milan Kumari Rai