

# BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN NEPAL



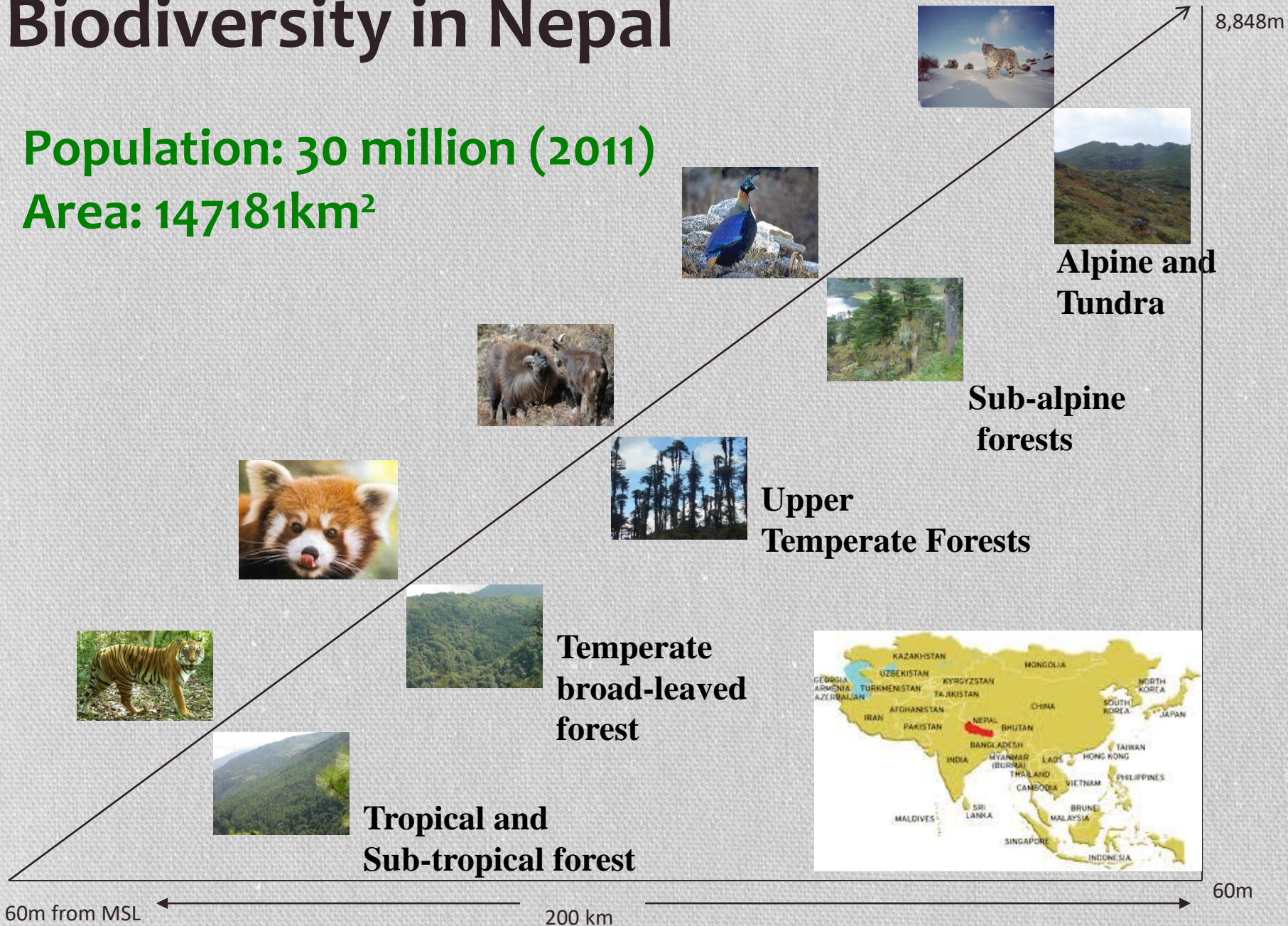
Maheshwar Dhakal, PhD

Email: [maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com](mailto:maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com)



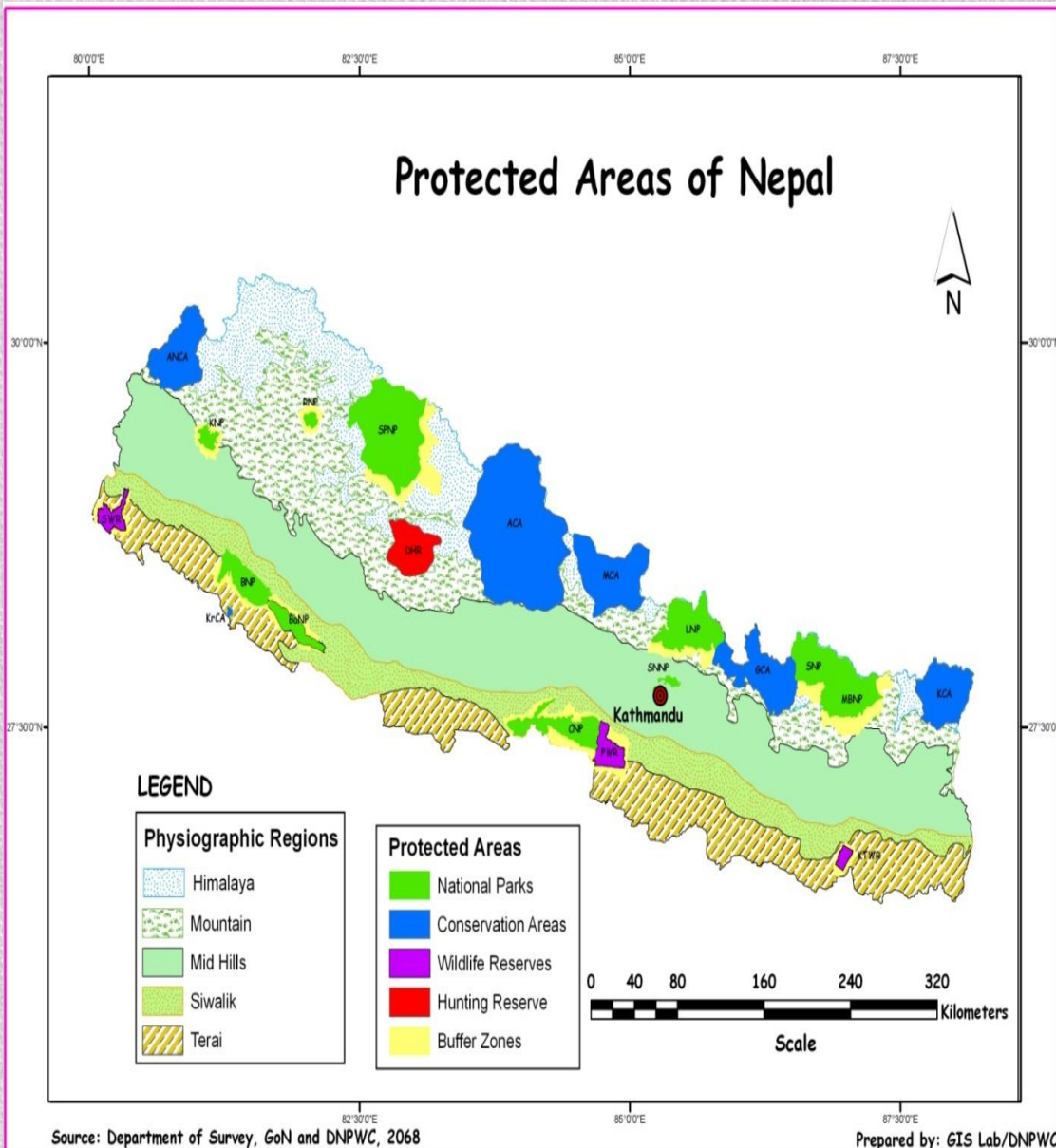
# Biodiversity in Nepal

- Population: 30 million (2011)
- Area: 147181km<sup>2</sup>

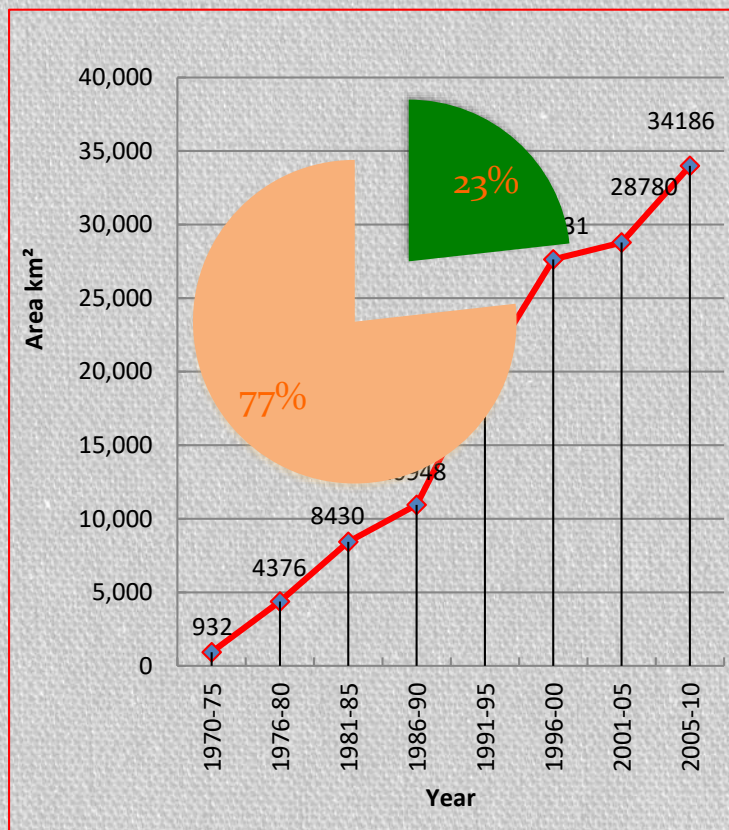




# Protected Area System in Nepal

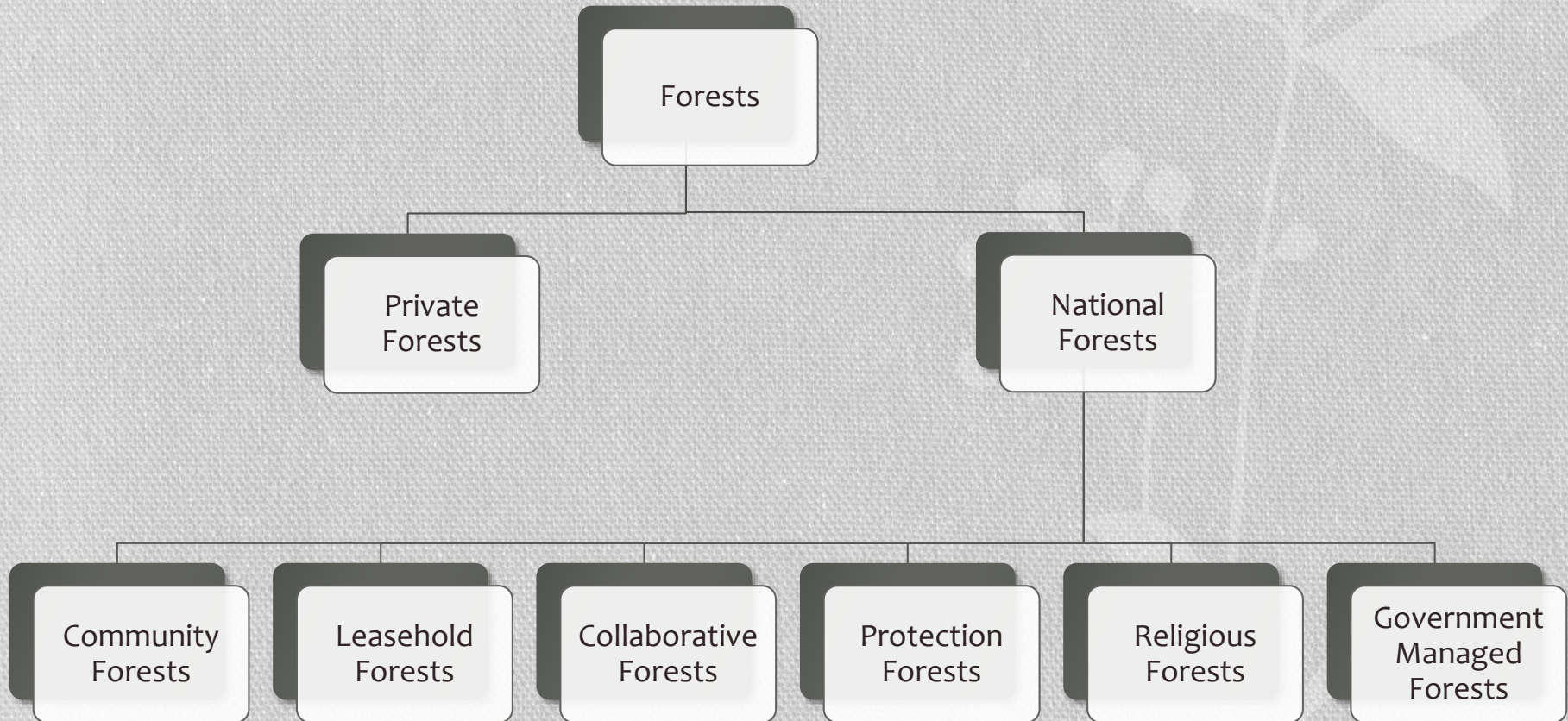


- National Park-12
- Wildlife Reserve-1
- Hunting Reserve-1
- Conservation Area-6





# Biodiversity Conservation Outside the Protected Area

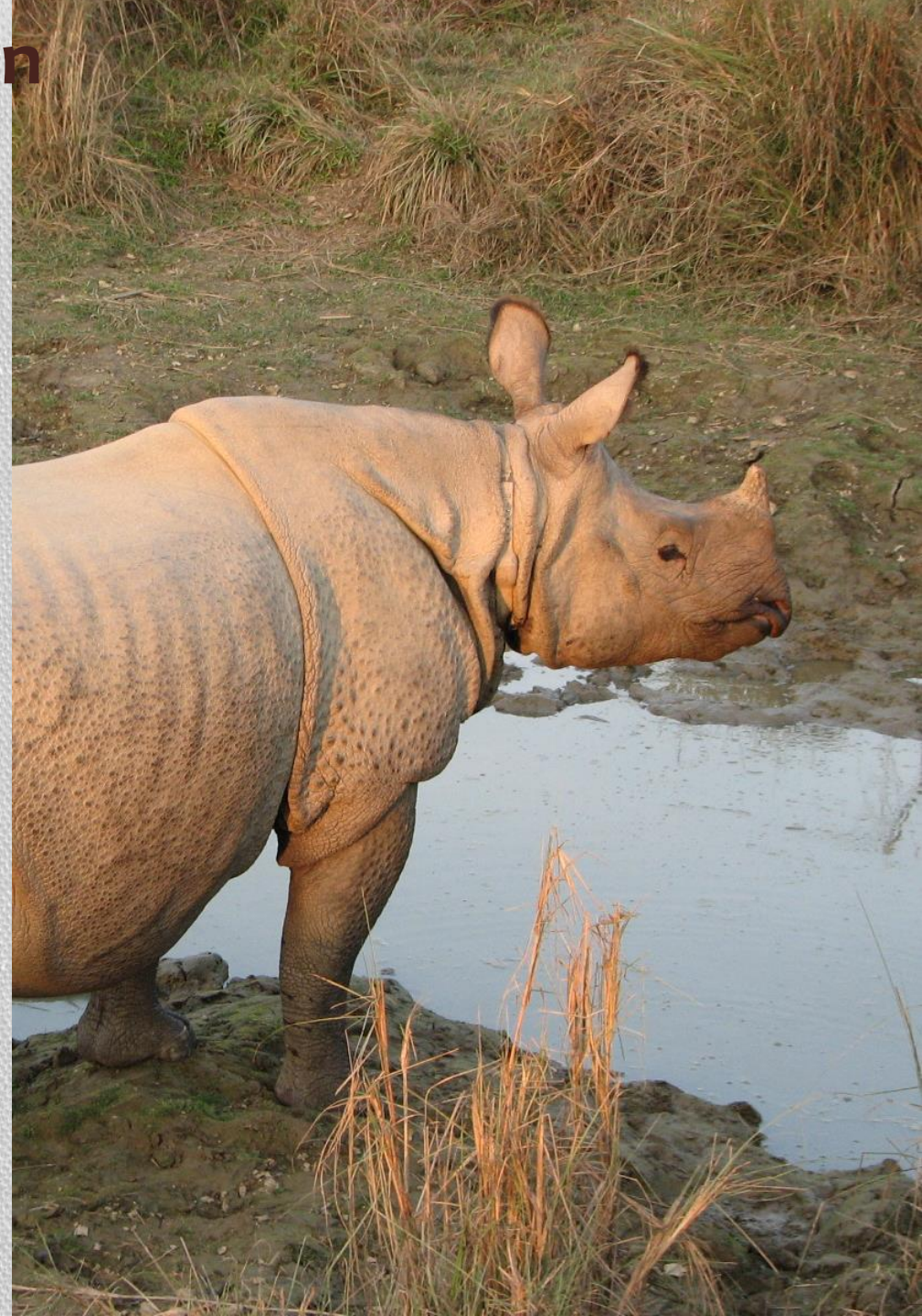


**Forests Coverage: 44.74%**



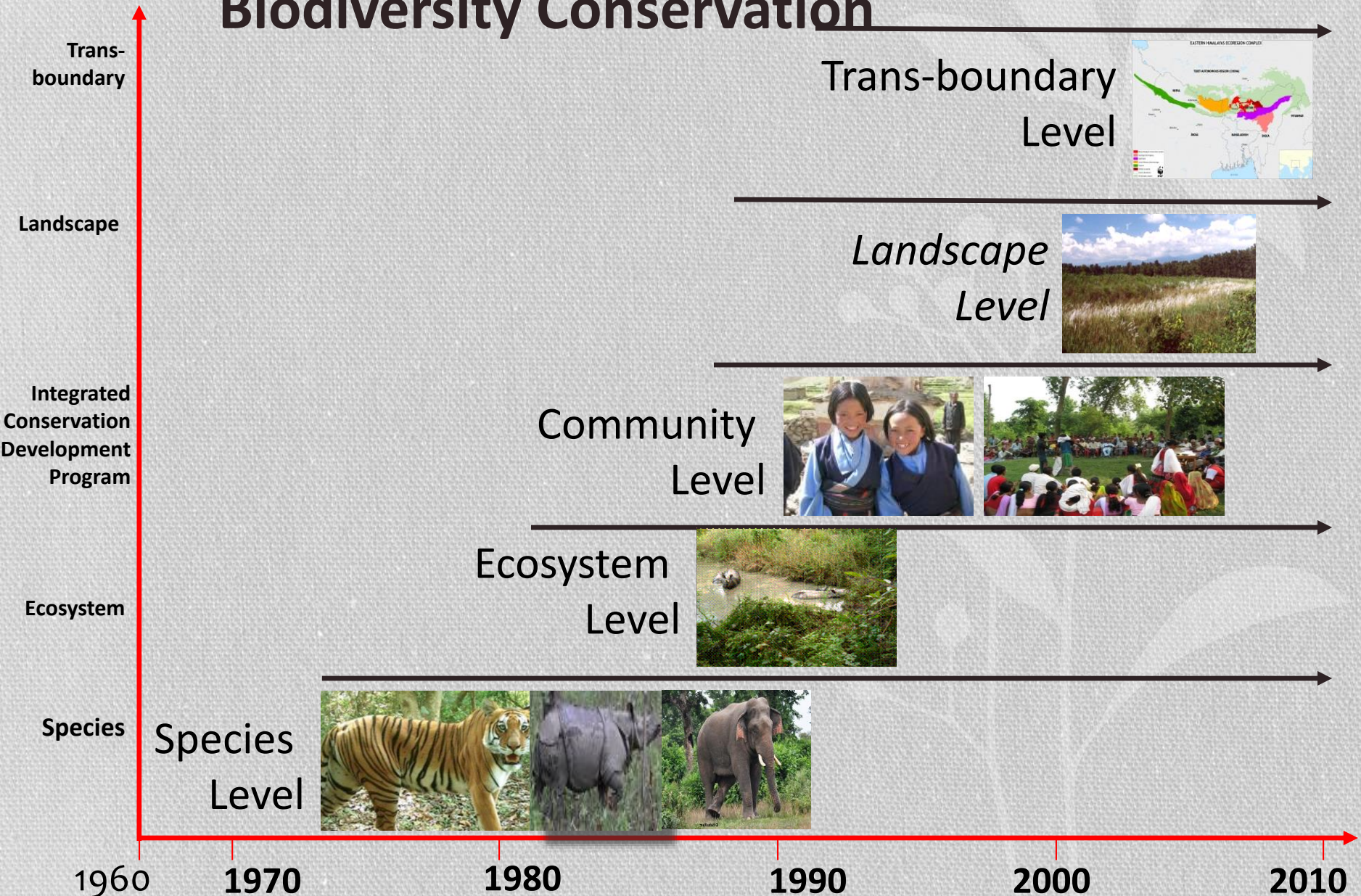
# Biodiversity Conservation organizations

- **Government**
  - Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
  - Ministry of Agriculture Development
  - Nepal Army
  - Nepal Police
- **Inter-Governmental**
  - Multilateral Environmental Agreements
  - ICIMOD
  - South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network
- **Non-Government**
  - National Trust for Nature Conservation
  - WWF Nepal
  - ZSL Nepal
- **Civil society and local communities**
  - Community Forest User groups
  - Buffer Zone management Committee and its user groups





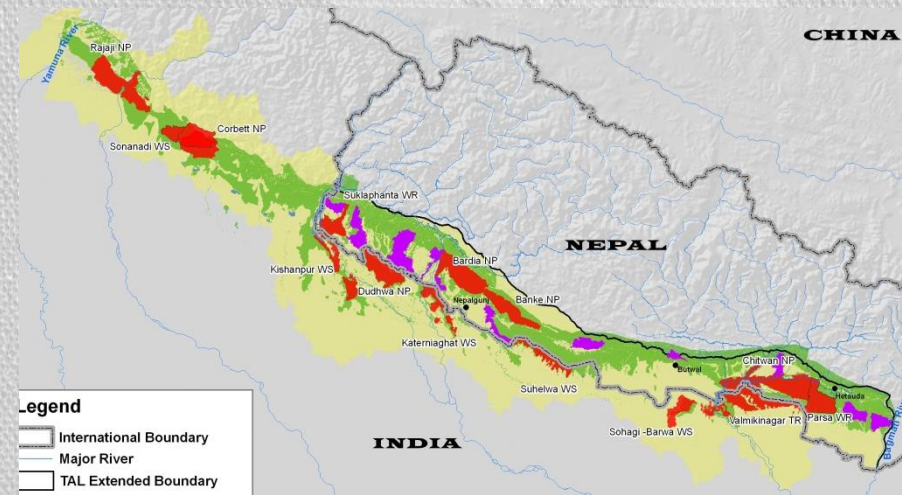
# Gradual Improvement in Biodiversity Conservation





# Conservation Approaches in Nepal

- Terai Arc Landscape
- Sacred Himal Landscape
- Chitwan-Annapurna Landscape
- Kailash Sacred Landscape and Development Initiative
- Kanchenjhunga Conservation landscape and Development Initiative





# Major Landscape level activities

- **Habitat management:** Wetland and grassland
- **Buffer zone program:** Involvement of local communities and livelihood improvements
- **Human-wildlife conflicts:** relief/compensation
- **Law enforcement:** controlling poaching and illegal trade
- **Forest Management:** Scientific and sustainable forest management
- **Trans-boundary cooperation:** India and China
- **Policy reform and organization reform:** capacity building and strengthening





# Engagement of Local Communities



- **Up to 50% of park revenue**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Livelihood**
- **Community development**
- **Awareness and education**
- **Relief fund for human-wildlife conflicts**





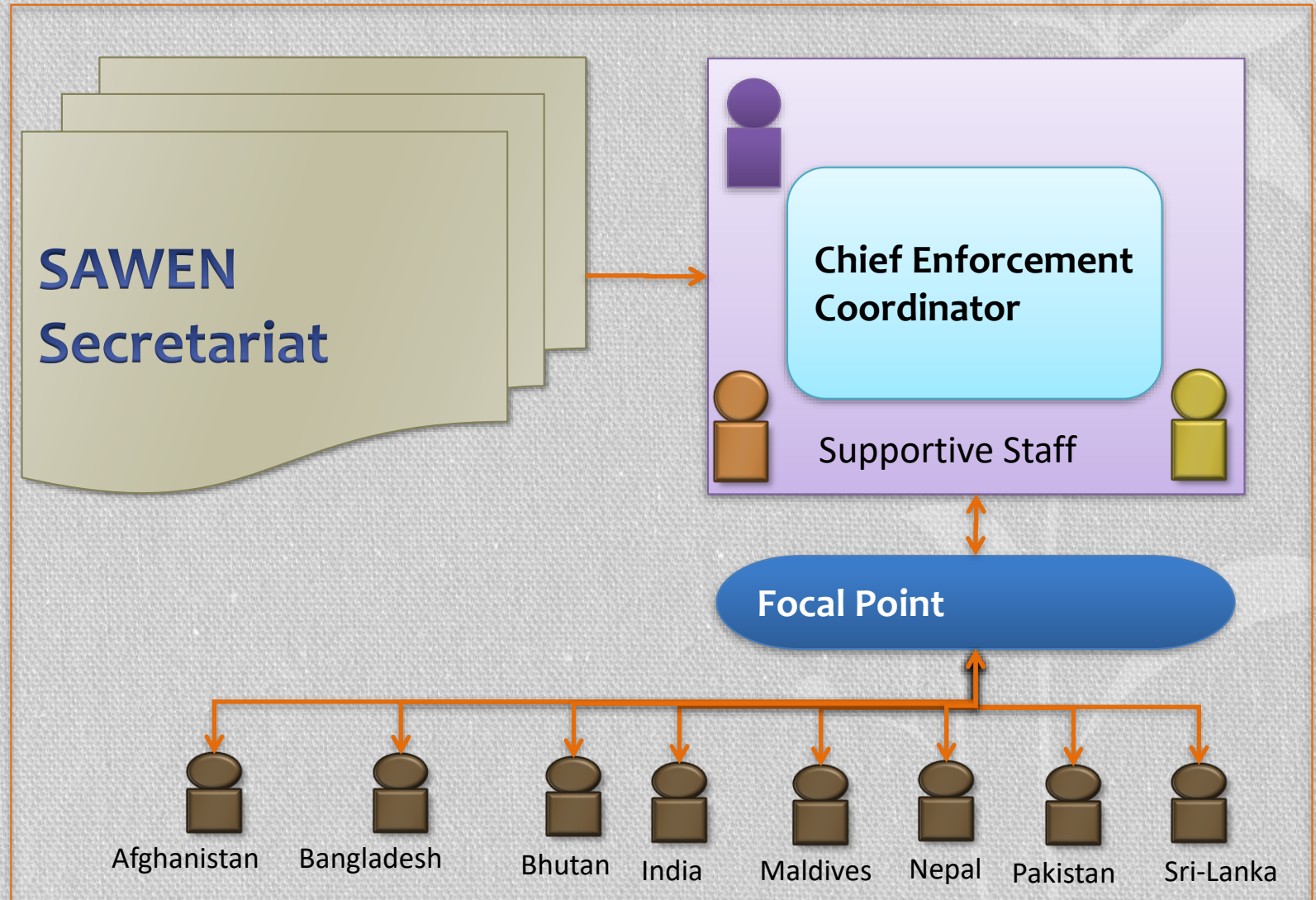
# Conservation with International organizations

- Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) -1975
- Ramsar Convention-1987
- UNESCO-1978
- Convention on Biological Diversity-1992
- Global Tiger Forum (GTF)-2004
- South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)





# South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)



15 June 2017



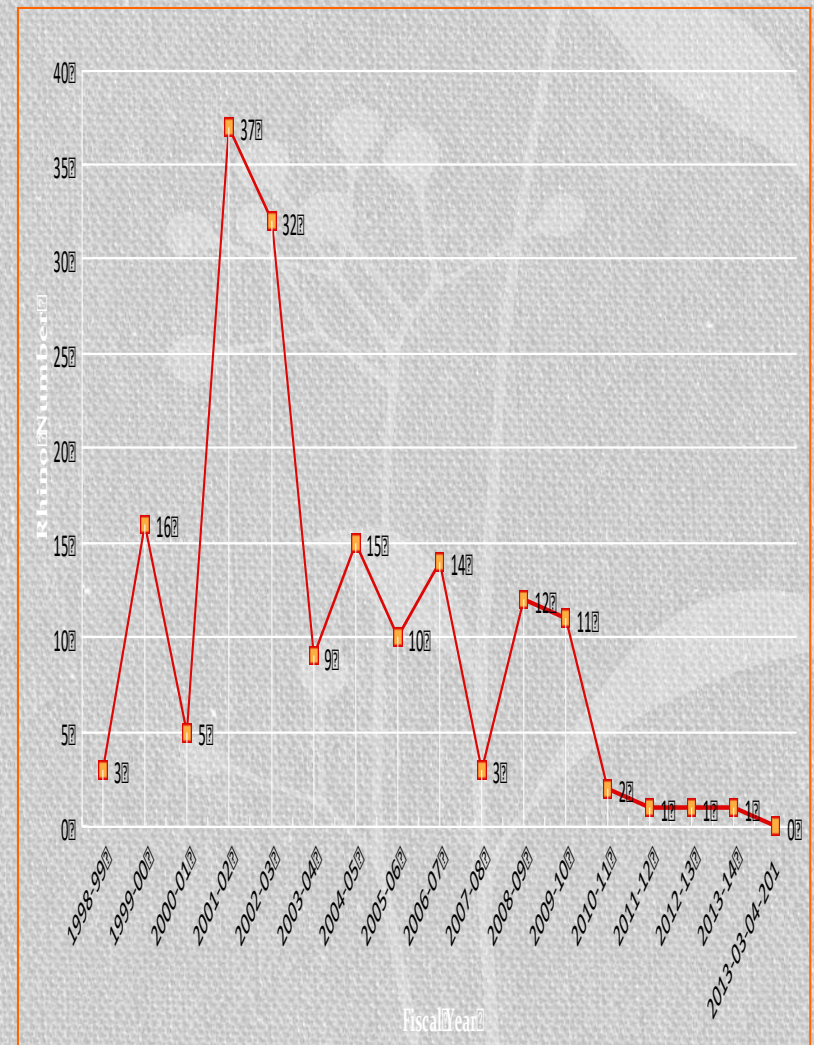
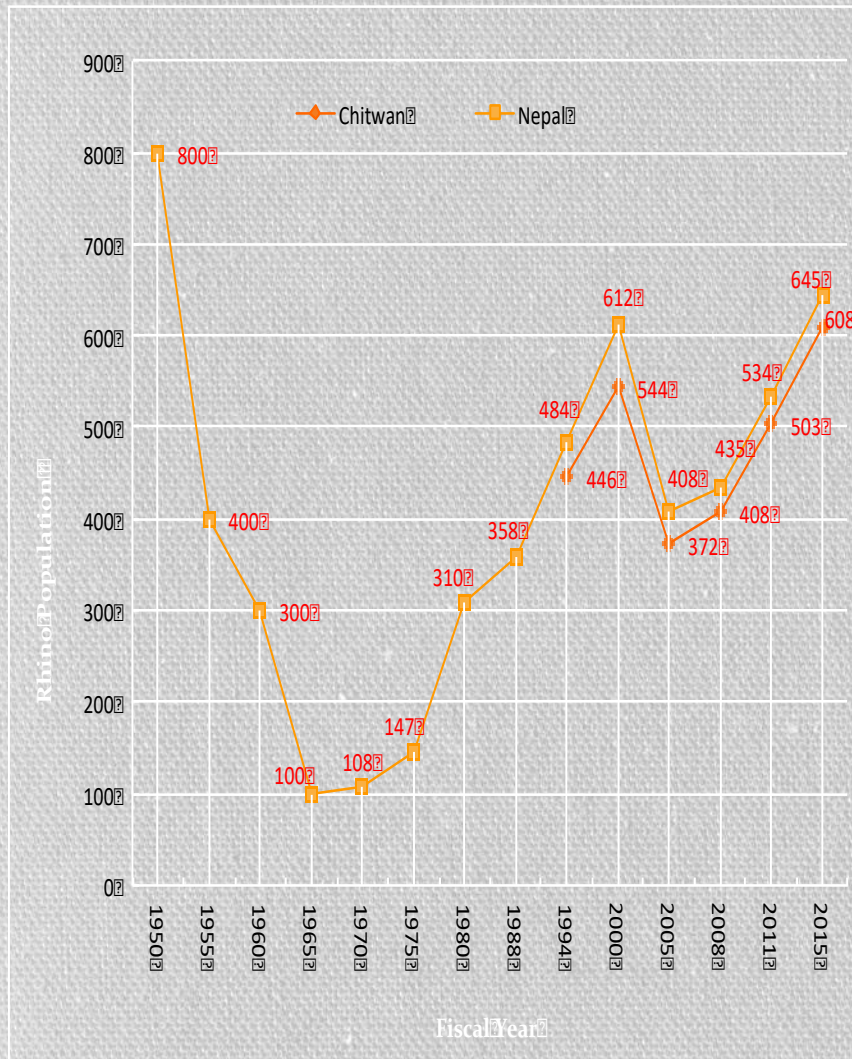
# Intutional reform on combating wildlife crime





# Outcome of Landscape level conservation

Increasing rhino population    Reducing in Rhino Poaching





# Outcomes of Forest Restoration in the Corridors-

- **Plantation and rehabilitation through people's participation**
- **Assurance of access and benefit sharing over the forest benefits**



**2001**



**2011**



# Major achievement and Gaps in Biodiversity Conservation

## Key achievements

1. Forests (44.74%) and Protected area coverage (23.39%)
2. Policy and institutional reform and advancement of approaches
3. Law enforcement system and Rhino zero poaching
4. Address to human-wildlife conflict
5. Involvement of local communities
6. Forests and biodiversity based enterprises
7. Teamwork culture
8. Trans-boundary cooperation and international networking (SAWEN)
9. Wildlife Research and monitoring
10. Increasing trend of flagship species like tiger and rhino

## Gaps

1. Political transition
2. Lack of policy harmonization
3. Concentration of program and project
4. Harnessing of the resources at optimum level
5. Financial capital not utilized to the optimal level
6. Poor database and documentation process
7. Climate change and its mitigation
8. Lack of coordination between conservation and development
9. Trust of private sector
10. Governance problem



# Dimensions of Landscape Level Conservation

- Species conservation
- Involvement of local communities
- Human-wildlife conflict
- Wildlife crime control
- Balance between conservation and development



## Wildlife Conservation

- Grassland
- Wetlands
- Prey-base
- Ecosystems



## Involvement of Local Communities

- Participation
- Access and benefit sharing
- Livelihood improvement



## Human-Wildlife Conflicts



- Human casualties
- Crop depredation
- Livestock loss
- Property loss



## Wildlife Crime

- Poaching
- Illegal trade of animals and plant parts



## Balance between conservation and development

- Road
- Hydropower
- Railway
- Industry
- Schools
- Health posts
- Hospitals





Thank  
You

