

# annual report 2010-11



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A scenic view of a mountain range with snow-capped peaks and a dense forest in the foreground. The mountains are rugged and layered, with the highest peaks covered in white snow. The lower slopes are covered in a thick, dark green forest. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

# Vision

Together with its partner organizations, Himmotthan is dedicated to the vision of building prosperous and self sustained mountain communities which live in harmony and sympathy with their natural surroundings.

# himmotthan

## AN OVERVIEW

Uttarakhand is a predominantly mountainous state carved out of Uttar Pradesh in 2000. The state's topography is characterized by deep valleys, high peaks and a wide variety of vegetation due to rapid changes in climate, resulting from steep altitudinal variations. Elevations range from 300 to 7000 masl, and average annual rainfall is about 1523 mm. Almost two-thirds of the land area is classified as Forest. The total geographical area of the state is 55,658.04 km<sup>2</sup>, and it has a population of over 84.89 lakh (2001 census). The population density of 159 persons per sq km varies widely in different physiographic regions. The state is predominantly rural with 74% of the population resident in over 16,000 settlements, 80% of which have populations of less than 500. Of the total reported area, only 14% is under cultivation while landholdings are small and scattered, with average land holding around 0.7 ha. More than 55% of the mountain's agriculture is rain-fed.

The idea of Himmotthan grew out of the desire of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT), the oldest private philanthropic organization in the country which runs large scale rural development programmes across the country, to intensify and ground its programme in the region. The Trust, which initiated numerous projects across the Central Himalayan region in the early 2000's, realized the need for a locally based and specialized team for strategizing, monitoring and evaluating its Central

Himalayan programme and projects. It further had a future vision which included intensive state level immersion of strategy, as well as increased networking amongst government and non-government organizations and departments in the region. To this effect the Trust signed a ten year MoU with the State government of Uttarakhand in 2004 to work together on rural development issues. The idea was that Trust programmes and projects in the state would fit in where government funds and activities could not reach. To bring to fruition the Trusts vision for the Central Himalayas, the Himmotthan Society was registered in 2007.

Initially begun as an evaluation and monitoring unit, Himmotthan has grown over the years to incorporate strategy development and design as a major component of its activities. Piloting of new and varied ideas, piloting the scaling up process, and building sustainable network strategies is the other major area of intervention. As of now the organization is 15 strong and has offices in the state capital, Dehradun, and in Gopeshwar town in Chamoli district.

As in landscapes with varying topographies, geographies and climates, more often than not, one single concept does not function across the region. Piloting for a single idea must be done at several locations, under differing conditions. This is usually done through different implementers, in this case, partner organizations, either government or



## Core Area – Inclusiveness

- Focus on remote areas and isolated villages
- Focus on SC/ ST/ BPL households
- Focus on families with small land holdings
- Focus on reducing drudgery and increasing incomes

non-government. Once success is demonstrated under different situations, a project is strategically scaled up. Scaling up then includes the involvement of numerous partner organizations for actual implementation, and the dovetailing of funds from different agencies including the government.

Networking with various government departments and tapping into government schemes for dovetailing of funds and activities is a basic underlying theme across all programmes developed at Himmotthan. Coordination of works with the state

government of Uttarakhand and with various partner organizations therefore, is a major component of Himmotthan's activities. Eventually the rural development mandate of the organization, with a specific focus on natural resource management, is upheld through successful, community managed initiatives which contribute directly to income increase, resource management and conservation.

Over the past year Himmotthan's work area has extended to Himachal Pradesh, where Trust funded programmes are being initiated and developed.

## Conserving Diversity

- Emphasis on indigenous species and products
- Emphasis on NTFP, MAPs and other niche produce
- Focus on value addition and market development



# The Central Himalayan Region

The arc-shaped Himalayas extend along the entire northern boundary of India and carve a path just as far across the Indian subcontinent as they do deeply into the life around them. The term "Himalaya", a Sanskrit word meaning "Abode of Snow" was coined by pilgrims who have traveled across these mountains for centuries. For many religions, including Hinduism and Buddhism, the Himalaya is also the abode of Gods. There are numerous routes that have brought pilgrims to these mountains since time immemorial, and continue to do so in increasing numbers. Tourism is therefore, now a major economic activity of the state.

The Indian Himalayas cover a vast area along the northern frontiers of the country and span five Indian States, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh, from west to east. The Uttarakhand Himalayas constitute the central Himalayan region, which is where Himmatan's activities are focused. For mountain people of the region the characteristics of Himalayan topography and resources continue to be the predominant factor in their lives. Terrain ranges from the high mountain ranges; deep valleys; a variety of vegetation ranging from dense tropical forests of the lower foothills to alpine and sub-alpine vegetation in the higher reaches, to the desert vegetation in the barren Trans-Himalayas.

Uttarakhand has historically been divided into Garhwal - the western half of the state, and Kumaon in the east. Garhwal, the land of many

'garhs', or forts, is more rugged, drier and generally difficult to access. Eking out a livelihood in the steep mountains of the region continues to be a losing struggle. The Ganga and the Yamuna originate in the Garhwal Himalayas, and most Hindu pilgrim sites are located in this difficult region. The Kumaon mountains are relatively gentler in the initial ranges. Moving further away from the north Indian plains, the mountains become steep and craggy as the Central Himalayas are accessed. In very general terms, Kumaon has better resource availability and a relatively gentler environment.

An ecologically diverse region due to the rapid changes in altitude, aspect and slopes, the central Himalayas have historically supported dense forests and numerous species. Over time however, unbridled exploitation has degraded much of these resources. The lack of ecological soundness in infrastructure projects has further led to land based problems, including soil erosion and landslides. Increased vulnerability of mountain resources to ongoing environmental changes, changes the availability of resources for human use, increases the loss of income generation possibilities, soil fertility, water and forest resources. Eventually it leads to increased human out migration and a general fall in the quality of life. Another outcome of degradation is the instability of slopes, loss of topsoil, increased landslips and landslides and therefore, increased risk of life, assets and livelihood.



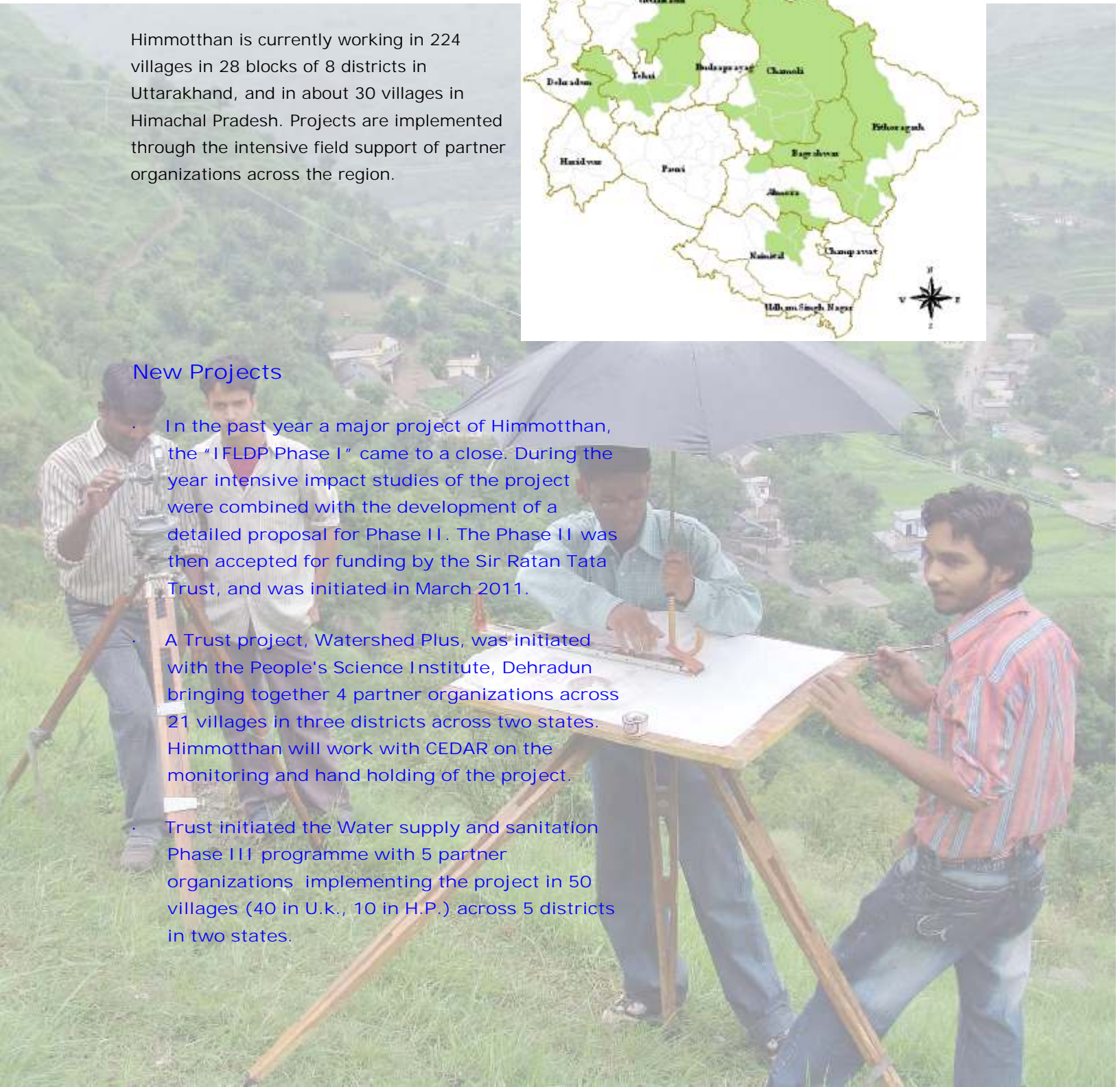
# Spread of Activities

Himmothan is currently working in 224 villages in 28 blocks of 8 districts in Uttarakhand, and in about 30 villages in Himachal Pradesh. Projects are implemented through the intensive field support of partner organizations across the region.



## New Projects

- In the past year a major project of Himmothan, the "IFLDP Phase I" came to a close. During the year intensive impact studies of the project were combined with the development of a detailed proposal for Phase II. The Phase II was then accepted for funding by the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, and was initiated in March 2011.
- A Trust project, Watershed Plus, was initiated with the People's Science Institute, Dehradun bringing together 4 partner organizations across 21 villages in three districts across two states. Himmothan will work with CEDAR on the monitoring and hand holding of the project.
- Trust initiated the Water supply and sanitation Phase III programme with 5 partner organizations implementing the project in 50 villages (40 in U.K., 10 in H.P.) across 5 districts in two states.



# Our Partners

Himmotthan's programmes are designed to be implemented at scale across many districts. Implementation is therefore designed to be done by village level organizations, supported and monitored closely by non-profit organizations based in the area. The non-profits also liaise and raise dovetailing funds for the projects. As of now Himmotthan is working in eight mountain districts, in close collaboration with partner NGOs, local village level organizations, and with the support of Block level, district and central state administration. Projects are also supported by technical government organizations, which can often reach areas which Himmotthan cannot. Such dovetailing of technical expertise, funds and outreach has been observed to have significant, snowballing impact, when supported by active and ongoing networking and monitoring.

Himmotthan's partner organizations therefore fall into three main categories – (i) Implementers - those which are geographically situated in rural regions of the state and implement activities on the ground; (ii) Technical - those which have the technical expertise to guide others and enhance performance over time, and (iii) External - those brought in as external experts for specific tasks such as impact assessments and evaluation studies.

Himmotthan's role includes introducing Partner organizations to new systems, strategies and

possibilities in programme development and design; helping in networking and liaison with the government and funding agencies; helping set up effective monitoring and evaluation systems; to bring to them knowledge, information, networking possibilities and technologies, and to provide physical and technological spaces to connect, discuss, debate and deliberate on issues as varied as rural development, institutional and personal growth, technologies and finance. Himmotthan operates strong monitoring systems on all projects, with the help of external experts and technical organizations.

Himmotthan's on the ground programme implementing partners include:

1. Alaknanda Ghati Shilpi Federation (AAGAAS), Chamoli
2. Institution for Rural and Eco – Development in Garhwal Himalayas (ANKUR), Chamoli
3. Central Himalayan Environment Association (CHEA), Nainital
4. Chattrasal Sewa Sansthan (CSS), Ranikhet
5. Garhwal Vikas Kendra (GVK) , Tehri
6. Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization (HESCO), Dehradun
7. Himalayan Education and Resource Development Society (HERDS), Chamba, Tehri
8. Himaliyan Gram Vikas Samiti (HGVS), Pithoragarh

9. Himalayan Organization for Protection of the Environment (HOPE), Ranikhet
10. Himalayan Sewa Samiti (HSS), Pithoragarh
11. Institute of Himalayan Environment, Research and Education (INHERE), Masi, Almora
12. Jai Nanda Welfare Society (JNWS), Chamoli
13. Jakheshwar Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), Gopeshwar
14. Mahaseer Conservancy, Marchula, Ramnagar, Udham Singh Nagar
15. Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA), Tehri
16. People's Science Institute (PSI), Dehradun
17. Research Advocacy and Communication in Himalayan Areas (RACHNA), Dehradun
18. Sankalp Samiti, Tharali, Chamoli
19. Society for Integrated Management of All Resources (SIMAR), Dewal, Chamoli
20. Shri Bhuvaneshwari Mahila Ashram (SBMA), Anjanisain, Tehri
21. Central Himalayan Rural Action Group (CHIRAG), Simayal, Nainital

Partners directly working on SRTT projects and currently included under Himmotthan's monitoring programme include –

1. Central Himalayan Rural Action Group (CHIRAG), Simayal, Nainital
2. Dr. Y.S. Parmar Univeristy of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh

3. Himalayan Institute and Hospital Trust (HIHT), Dehradun
4. Himaliyan Gram Vikas Sansthan (HGVS), Gangolihat, Pithoragarh
5. People's Science Institute (PSI), Dehradun
6. Sathi, Himachal Pradesh
7. Sri Bhuvaneshwari Mahila Ashram (SBMA), Dehradun
8. Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fibre Development Board (UBFDB), Dehradun
9. Uttarakhand Organic Commodity Board (UOCB), Dehradun
10. Vadhu, Ranikhet, Almora

Partners assisting closely in designing strategy, evaluating and monitoring include:

1. Centre for Ecology Development and Research (CEDAR), Dehradun
2. Advance Center for Water Resources Development and Management (ACWADAM), Pune

Our Partners have competencies and expertise which range in different issues related to natural resource management and community mobilization. Most local partners are also geographically defined, a natural outcome of a steep and difficult terrain. All are linked very closely to the communities they live and work with.

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## FOCUS AREAS

Himmotthan's programmes and projects are focused under 5 main areas of work:

- a. Water (and Sanitation)
- b. Agriculture
- c. Livestock
- d. Forests
- e. Communities

Representation of the five areas of work and their inter-linkages is done through a diagram

of four interlinking circles, within a larger circle which denotes the community. This simple illustration aptly describes the dependence of each of these issues upon the others, as well as overall immersion within the larger sphere, which defines the focus of the programme on rural communities.



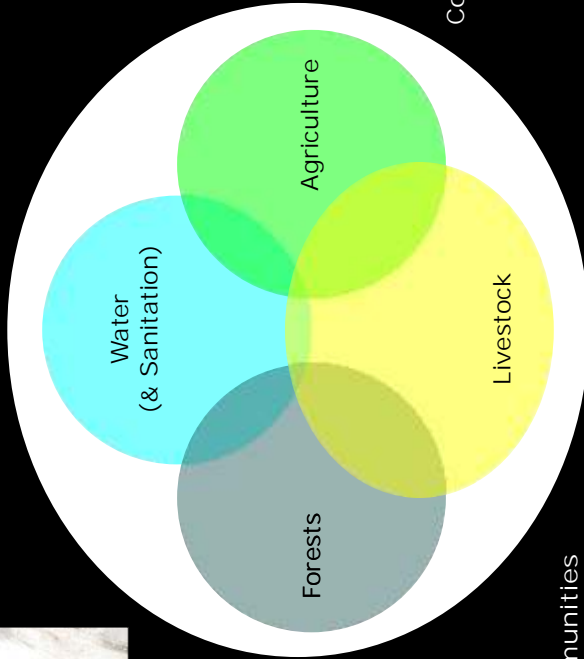
# Areas of Focus



Communities



Communities



Communities



Communities

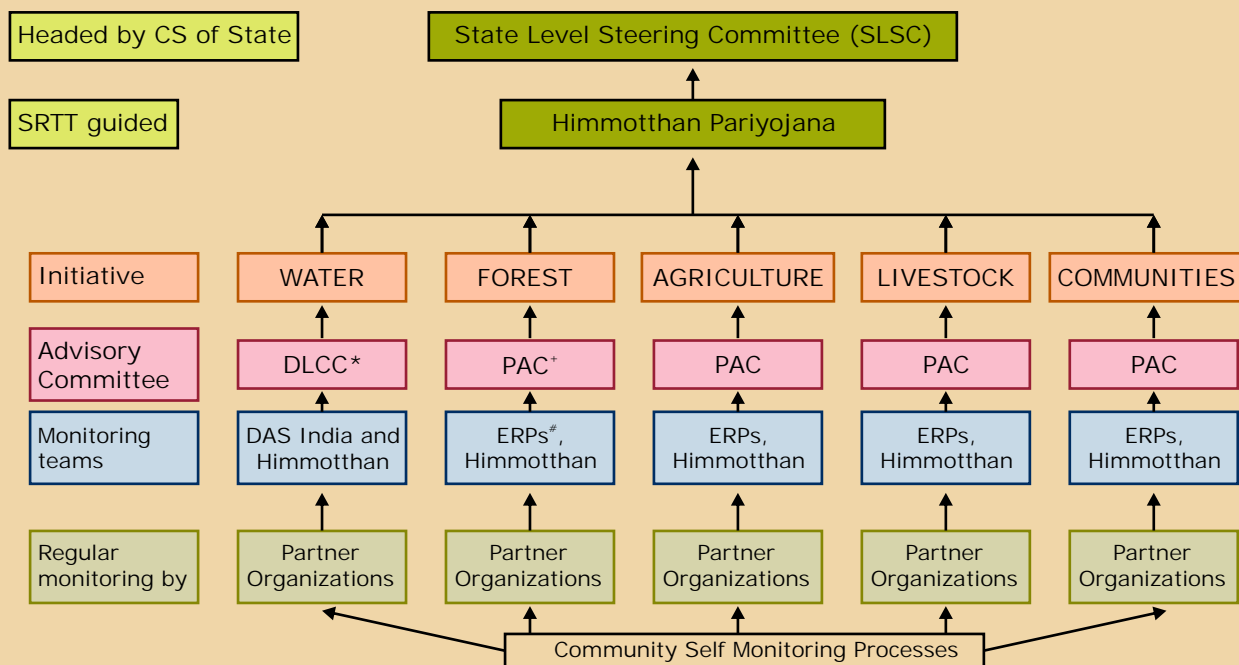


# Programme Management

Himmotthan projects fall under two main categories. Those which are directly implemented in the field by Himmotthan, and those in which non-profits directly receive projects from the Trust. The second category of projects are hand held and monitored by Himmotthan. In some cases (usually the larger projects) the monitoring process is formalized through monitoring linkages developed with experts and consultant organizations, while in others Himmotthan carries out monitoring in close partnership with the field organizations and community groups.

Project management activities include regular visits to project locations, hand-holding and back stopping support to partner organizations, External Resource Person (ERP) recruitment and placement in projects. Monitoring processes include data collection, putting in place evaluation and impact monitoring systems, and liaison with government and other officials towards smooth functioning of projects. All projects are implemented through an annual work plan system and progress is measured against milestones. An MIS at Himmotthan processes incoming data and information for monitoring and strategy development.

Initiative-wise process management chart



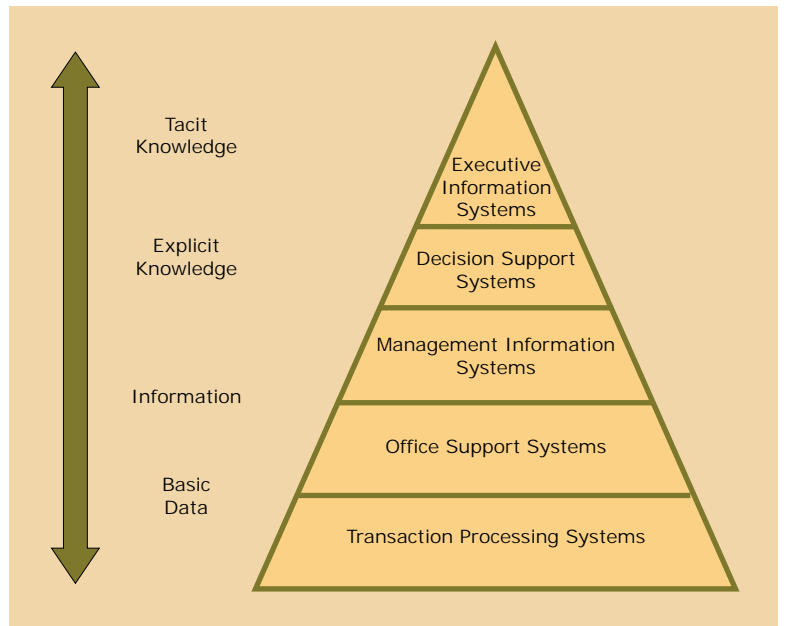
\* DLCC – District Level Coordination Committee, headed by the DM of the district  
 + PAC – Project Advisory Committee, a panel of experts  
 # ERPs – External Resource Persons

# The Himmotthan Management Information Systems

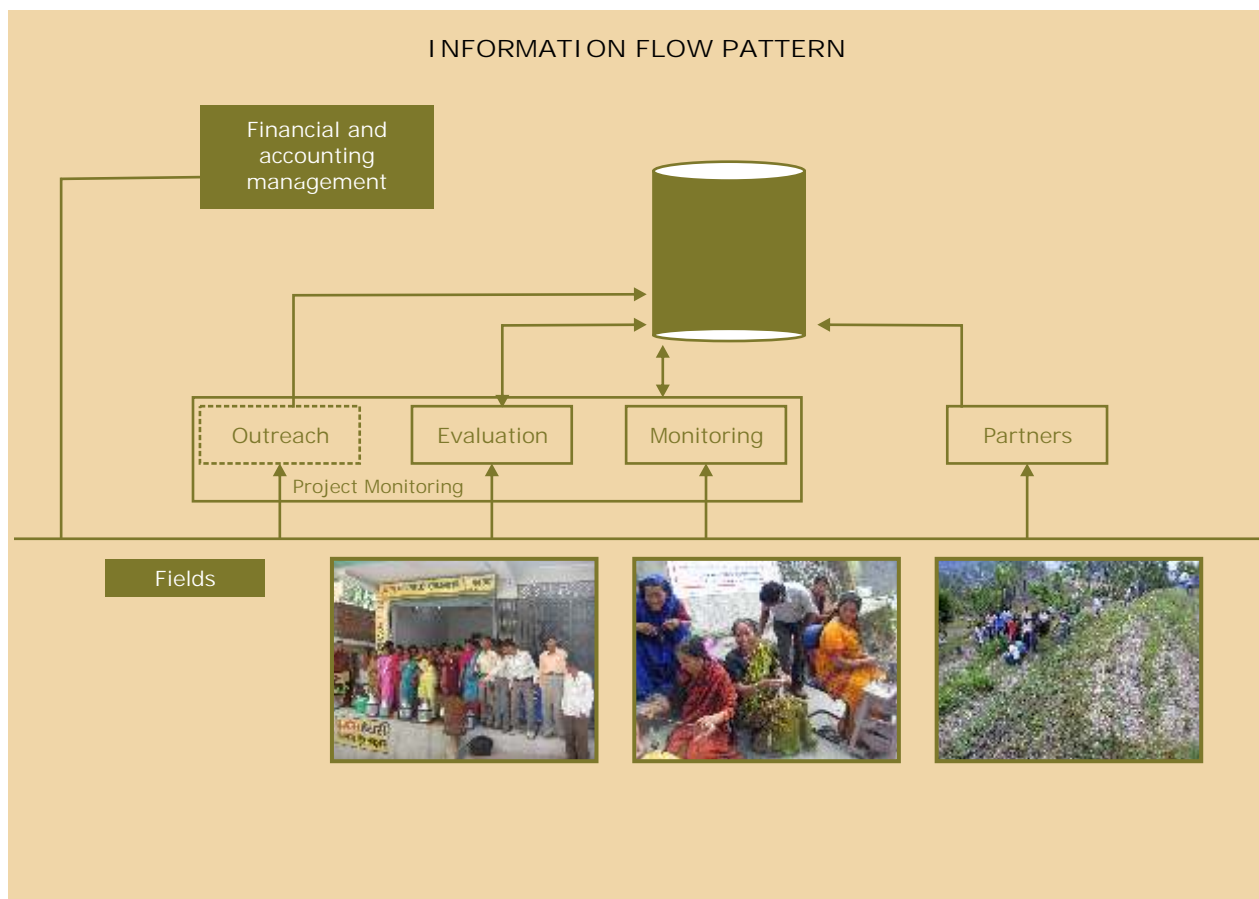
*(Under the CLMP programme)*

Development organisations like Himmotthan are goal oriented. Himmotthan strives to achieve timely realization of goals, quality outputs and financial transparency. This involves efficient planning, effective monitoring and knowledge based decision making. Information is the key to sustainable decision-making. Socioeconomic conditions and their changes are evaluated using regular assessments based on the systematic collection and generation of data and information. This forms the basis for evaluating the current situation, monitoring progress, and directing future courses of action.

The extensive MIS system developed by Himmotthan acts both, as a database, with constant updating of field data, as well as a tool for analysis and strategy. Each project



required independent design of data formats and programme, on the basis of which the MIS took shape. For example the Water and Sanitation programme therefore focuses on depicting stream water flows over several years, health and hygiene indicators, while the fodder project works on fodder species production data, milk collection and SHG group functioning. The system currently works on intranet, but will be made accessible on internet in the coming year.







# Area Wise Projects

In a region with varying topographies, geographies and climates, more often than not, one single concept does not function across the board. Piloting for a single idea usually must be done at several sites through different partner organizations. Once success is demonstrated under different situations, the project can be strategically scaled up. Scaling up then includes the involvement of numerous partner organizations for actual implementation, and the dovetailing of funds from different agencies including the government.

# area 1: water and sanitation

	Partner Organization	Project	Project type – Himmotthan implementation / SRTT monitoring	Role of Partner Organization
1.	Himalaya Trust, Dehradun	Gharat	Himmotthan	Implementation
2.	HESCO, Dehradun	Gharat	Himmotthan	Technical advisory
3.	GVK, Nainbagh	Hydrology pilot	Himmotthan	Implementation
4.	ACWADAM, Pune	Hydrology pilot	Himmotthan	Technical advisory
5.	HERDS	Hydrology pilot	Himmotthan	Implementation
6.	INHERE	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
7.	SBMA	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
8.	HIHT	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
9.	HGVS	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
10.	SATHI	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
11.	THT	Watsan	Monitoring	Implementation
12.	DAS India, Lucknow	Watsan	Monitoring	Technical advisory

Himmotthan  
Implementation  
Project 1

Hydrology and Water Resource Conservation Pilot  
(Under the CLMP programme)

Despite being the source of many great rivers that provide water for millions of people downstream, villages and towns in the Himalayas face severe shortages of water. For nearly everyone residing in the Himalayan mountains, springs are the exclusive source of water for drinking, domestic needs, and occasionally for irrigation. The past decades have been witnessing a decline in rainfall and consequentially diminishing discharge of springs. Several springs have become seasonal and many others have completely dried up.

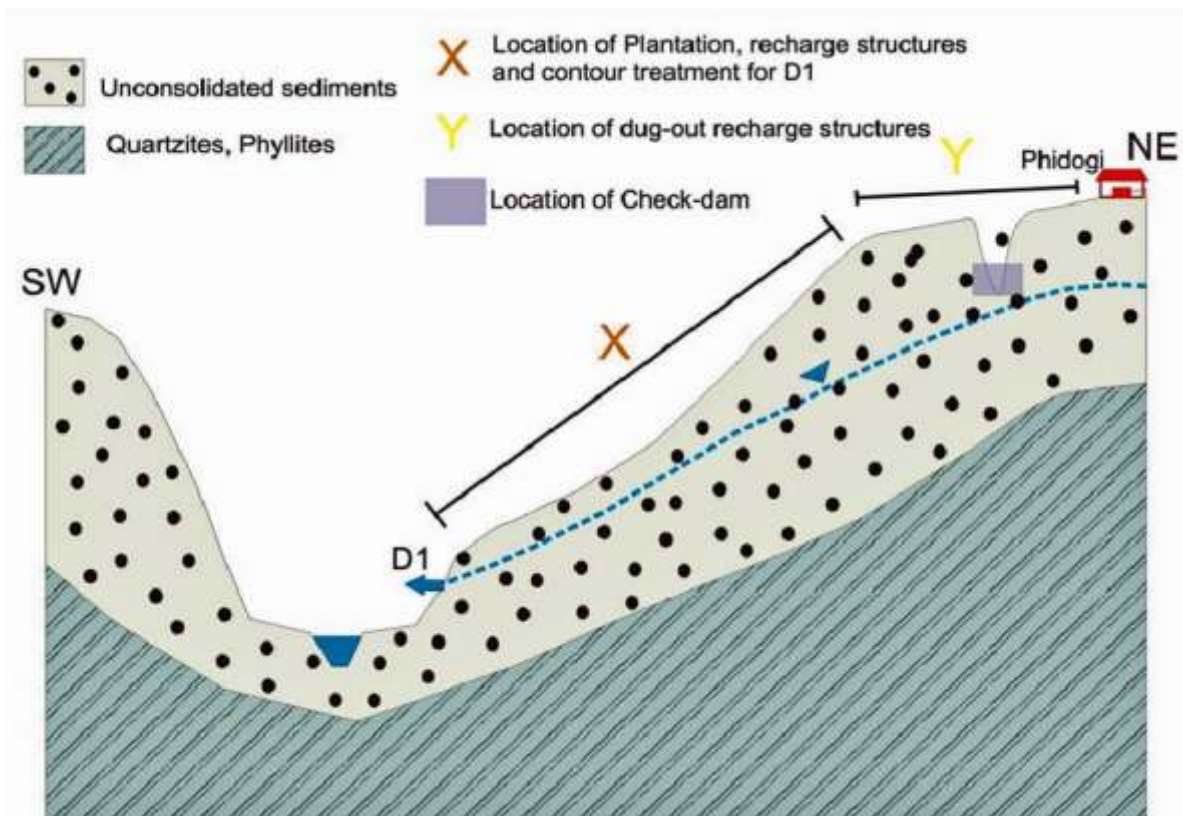
Himmotthan, with an aim to improve the approach towards catchment area planning and treatment for spring water management in Uttarakhand, brought in ACWADAM (Advanced Centre for Water resource Development and Management), a geo-hydrology focused organization based in Pune. The initial objective involved a development of geo-hydrological understanding of partner organizations. The scope of program was later widened and ACWADAM undertook a complete geo-hydrological study of four springs. The

objective of the study includes:

1. Detailed hydro-geological investigation- demarcation of the recharge area, characterizing the nature of the spring (type), collection of spring discharge and quality data.
2. Dissemination of the information obtained by investigations to Himmotthan and other partners.
3. Recommendations for the enhancement of the spring discharge, limitations thereof; aquifer characteristics and spring water quality.
4. Recommendations for the protection of the aquifer and prevention of source water contamination.
5. Training individuals from partner organizations and the community for collection of spring discharge and water quality data.

Four springs were selected for the geo-hydrological study by ACWADAM from the following locations:

1. Dangala (Chaulana-D1), Jaunpur block, Tehri District, Uttarakhand.
2. Mundani (Bijiliyana-J1), Thatyur, Jaunpur block, Tehri District, Uttarakhand.
3. Mathamali (Churinda- C1), Thatyur, Jaunpur block, Tehri District, Uttarakhand.
4. Bandawali (Bandawali- B1), Rajpur block, Dehradun District, Uttarakhand.
5. Two partner organizations were involved in the process viz. Garhwal Vikas Kendra (GVK) looking after Bijiliyana (J1) and Churinda (C1) springs and the Himalayan Educational and Resource Development Society (HERDS) which is looking after Chaulana (D1) and Bandawali (B1) springs.



Conceptual model of Dangala spring

Activities - April 2010 to March 2011 (Spring Catchment Area Treatment):

During the year, around 5ha catchment area of each spring has been taken for vegetative and engineering treatment. Detailed geo-hydrological mapping, land use mapping and treatment plans of each catchment were done, prior to start of the treatment works in the catchment area.

During the period, a sub-surface check dam (8.5 RM dimension) was constructed in Chaulana (Dangala) spring catchment by HERDS, and two check dams were constructed by GVK in Munandi and Mathamali spring catchments (Table-1 & 2)

also installed for water purification at Bandawala spring source.

Workshop conducted on Sensitization and Awareness Building on Geo-hydrological Aspects of the Central Himalayan Region:

The workshop was conducted in the month of February 2011 in Dehradun. The underlying principle behind conducting this workshop was to sensitize government officials towards the process followed in the field of spring water management and water resources development across the State, and to explore possibilities at the policy level in mountain regions, with specific emphasis on the importance of geo-hydrology in decentralized

Table 1: Work on Catchments Area Treatment (Engineering Measures)

Name of Activity	GVK (Area Covered – 10.0 Ha.)	HERDS (Area Covered – 11.0 Ha.)
Counter Trenches (RMT)	1090	48
Khals (Nos.)	27	10
Land Leveling (Nali)	-	07
Gabion Check Dams (RMT)	10	-

Table 2: Work on Catchments Area Treatment (Vegetative Measures)

Name of Activity	GVK (Area Covered – 10.0 Ha.)	HERDS (Area Covered – 11.0 Ha.)
Tree Planting (Nos.)	3942	2613
Shrub Planting(Nos.)	200	-
Grass Planting (Nos.)	5500	4000
Pits for plants (Nos.)	3942	2613
Weeding (Ha)	-	5

The Water Management Society of the selected villages is taking care of the protection and management of the treated spring catchment. HERDS has taken the initiative to renovate the spring water source and built a water collection chamber at the source. Two gate-walls and a chlorinator were

water management programs. The Additional Chief Secretary of State chaired the programme, which led later to discussions between the state and ACWADAM on possible trainings. Since the workshop ACWADAM has also linked with PSI on a country wide programme for hydro-geological studies in catchments.

Rural communities of the Himalayan region have been using hydropower energy from perennial streams and rivulets by building indigenous watermills (gharats) for centuries. Gharats have traditionally been used for the grinding of grains into flour, and larger villages used to have several *gharats*, depending upon the availability of suitable flows. Over the past few decades however, gharats have been largely abandoned because of varying reasons, including a decrease in stream water flows; because it is a time taking process; because it's easier to access and use diesel driven grinding machines now available in many roadside villages; and finally because of the lack of a systematic business plan for gharats, resulting in poor economic returns for the owner. It was in this context that Himmotthan initiated a pilot project for setting-up of a gharat based enterprise with the following four objectives:

- To up-grade a gharat as a model with improved technology. This gharat would then serve as a prototype for upgrading many more nonfunctional gharats in the region.
- To develop a cadre of trained local people for the operation and management of upgraded gharats.
- To install different agro-processing systems aimed at reducing drudgery.
- To organize a woman's group from the village community for setting up a gharat based micro-enterprise.

A detailed study was conducted to identify potential gharat sites best suited for upgradation and the setting up of a hydropower based enterprise in Tehri and Uttarkashi districts. Around 40 different sites were reviewed, keeping various points (i.e. location, water availability, operational capacity, legal status, scope for setting-up of rural enterprises and owner's interest in upgradation, willingness of the owner to share benefits with the community and to organize them for setting up of hydro-power based micro-enterprises) into consideration. Based on these selection criteria, an old gharat at Ganeshpur village, Uttarkashi district was selected.

Ganeshpur is known as a Tata Gaon (village). Situated on the Rishikesh-Gangotri highway, eight kilometers from the district headquarter Uttarkashi, Ganeshpur has about 150 families. Subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry are the main source of income. During the 1991 Uttarkashi earthquake most of the houses of the village either collapsed, or were severely damaged. The Tata group rebuilt the village, building houses for every needy family, with corrugated tin roofs. Those houses are



still maintained and occupied, while in some cases the villagers have expanded the houses and re-used the roofing. To the right of the village is a perennial stream (gadhera) with a strong flow, used by villagers for irrigation and drinking purposes. A half kilometer long ghul (local irrigation channel) with a steep gradient is used for running the village gharats. Of the five existing gharats, four are still functional. Almost all village households use these to grind grain for daily use.

Himmotthan partnered with 'The Himalaya Trust' (THT) for the implementation of the project. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) was prepared by a technical expert in collaboration with Mr. Balliram Badhani, the gharat owner, and the village community, keeping in mind local needs, resource availability, constraints and opportunities, technical planning, possibilities related to the setting up of agro-processing units and gharat based micro-enterprises. A series of 'acceptance' meetings were organized with Mr. Badhani and the villagers to get everyone to agree to the concept, followed by the signing of a tri-partite agreement between Mr. Badhani, the village community and the implementing organization (THT) clarifying all terms and conditions related to the gharat's upgradation, modus-

operandi, and cost sharing mechanisms. In-depth trainings were given to Mr. Badhani, to the operator cum gharat technician, and village institutions including Mechanical Training: on-spot training at the time of equipment installation, testing of installed equipment, operation and maintenance; Electricity Generation: on-spot training on equipment installation, testing of installed equipment, operation and maintenance ; Operation and Maintenance of Gharat: Field training on operation and maintenance of up-graded gharat. Exposure visits were organized and with support of the Technical Expert, the Himalaya Trust assisted Mr. Badhani and the village institution in the upgrading process. All equipment for electricity production was purchased from Farm Fabric, Dehradun and two experts from HESCO were hired for a month for installation. Installation started with the penstock and turbine following which the turbine was successfully tested, and shaft stands fixed. Finally the Electricity Generator (Alternator) was installed. Testing continued for over ten days, grinding different spices and grains in the process. With the completion of the renovated gharat, efforts were made to reorganise the villages existing Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Mahila Mangal Dal. Possibilities of operating the gharat in enterprise mode were explored. A village level Federation was formed with members from different formal and informal institutions, which is now developing a business plan for gharat products, to be implemented in the coming year. Himmotthan along with the Himalaya Trust will extend support to the Federation for establishing market linkages.



## The “Commons, Livelihoods and Markets Project” or CLMP (2009 – 12)

Natural resources of the mountains mostly originate on common lands and forests. They cut across economic, land use, institutional and management parameters. Resource availability often bridges the gap between a sustenance farmer and a small trader/ entrepreneur, as it provides the base for numerous enterprises. Increased and sustained availability furthermore, vastly eases the burden of physical labour on rural women. The CLMP was designed following the learning's and experiences from Himmotthan's first phase of work in Uttarakhand. The project therefore focuses upon the necessity of continued availability of natural resources based livelihoods in this region, which in turn requires specific sustainable management practices. Himmotthan is, through this Project, piloting, lobbying and liaisoning on the issues discussed above, to ensure secure access, sustainable strategies and market linkages. Pilot projects are being implemented under the relevant programmes and depending upon their success, are being used to develop larger concepts and scaled up projects.

The project initiates development in six different areas of work - some new and others as the consolidation of previously run pilots. Components include: (i) a High Altitude programme for the upper Himalayan communities; (ii) developing a systematic microfinance (MF) programme to integrate microfinance in all existing livelihood based programmes by strengthening and developing local village level institutions; (iii) a Non-Timber Forest Produce programme, mainly focusing on medicinal and aromatic plants; (iv) Rural Tourism (v) Hydrology and water resources (vi) Climate Change, which involves mainly developing a high altitude baseline and discussing the issue and its impacts on natural resources and (v) Management Information Systems as a continuation and development of the work in the first phase. These various projects fall under different 'Areas' of focus in the Himmotthan programme and therefore are detailed under their respective 'Area' in this report.

The immediate scope of activities in these projects are expected to directly benefit over 2000 households covering around 13,000 beneficiaries in 48 villages over the next three years. Indirectly, but as an immediate fallout of the interventions, another 5000 beneficiaries are expected.



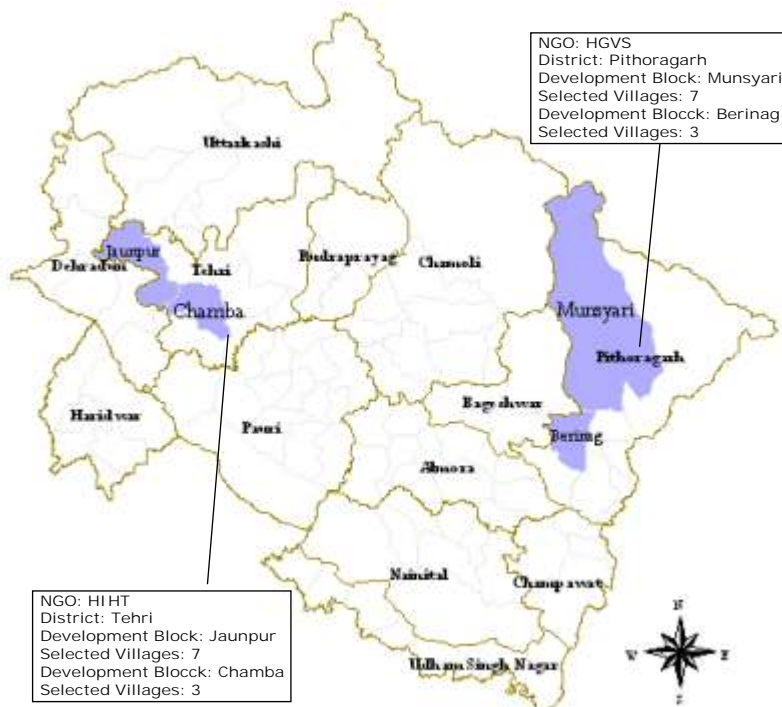
Access to potable water and sanitation facilities has been the bane of rural communities across India; more so across Uttarakhand, given its difficult topography and remote villages. The State Government has tried to address challenges posed through several well meaning initiatives; which have delivered mixed results.

The SRTT WATSAN Projects are implemented through village based water supply and sanitation committees, known as Management Societies, which plan, implement and manage their own schemes. The process has three phases - "Pre-planning", "Planning" and "Implementation cum O&M". Through two distinct Phases (Phase I: 2002-07 and Phase II: 2007-10), 90 villages were covered, benefiting over 5000 households. A total of 157 water schemes and 3119 sanitation units were installed. With high demand from

neighbouring villages for replication of activities (and stemming from the successes of Phase I and II), the Trust has now initiated a fresh phase of support under the Water and Sanitation (WATSAN) Programme of HMP. 50 new villages are being covered under Phase III, in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh for which the baseline process has been initiated.

Monitoring: Himmothan strategizes, coordinates, manages and provides hands on support to the WATSAN programme. Also as part of the current memorandum of understanding with the government of Uttarakhand, two District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) meetings under the chairmanship of the District Collector are mandatory to facilitate the process. Various district level line departments, including the Jal Nigam, Irrigation and Public Health, Rural

Development and the Forest Department are members of the DLCC. In case of disputes the DLCC plays an important role. The primary objective is to ensure that work is not replicated in villages under the Himmothan Pariyojana WATSAN. In addition, the services of ENV-DAS (Pvt) Ltd., Lucknow, provides construction and software support to facilitating organizations and village level management societies. The Advanced Center for Water Resources Development and Management (ACWADAM), Pune, is currently providing support on geo-hydrology and catchment management. The first round of DLCC's for Phase II were conducted at Tehri, Uttarkashi, Almora, Pithoragarh





and Nahan. Acwadam and Himmotthan undertook field visits to all project areas. Detailed Technical Reports for Catchment Protection works have been developed for implementation. ENV-DAS and Himmotthan

have further completed the first round of review of five partners. Review reports and recommendations to improve the project activities have also been shared with partners.



# area 2: agriculture

	Partner Organization	Project	Project type – Himmotthan implementation / SRTT monitoring	Role of Partner Organization
a.	Society for Integrated Management of All Resources (SIMAR)	HVLV	Himmotthan	Implementation
b.	Himalayan Organization for Protecting the Environment (HOPE)	HVLV	Himmotthan	Implementation
c.	Herbal Research and Development Institute (HRDI)	HVLV	Himmotthan	Technical advisory
d.	G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GDPIHEB)	HVLV	Himmotthan	Source of planting material
e.	Centre for Aromatic Plants	HVLV	Himmotthan	Source of planting material
f.	Uttarakhand Organic Commodity Board	COF I & II	SRTT monitoring	Implementing
g.	People's Science Institute (PSI)	SML	SRTT monitoring	Strategy development and monitoring
h.	CEDAR	SML	SRTT monitoring	Monitoring and advisory
i.	MVDA	SML	SRTT monitoring	Implementation
j.	HMR	SML	SRTT monitoring	Implementation
k.	ERA	SML	SRTT monitoring	Implementation
l.	Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry (4 pilots)	YSPU	SRTT monitoring	Implementation

## Himmotthan Implementation Project 3

### Promotion of High Value – Low Volume (HVLV) crops based enterprise in the higher Himalayas of Uttarakhand (Under the CLMP programme)

This project is being implemented in high altitude areas (1700-2500 msl) in two districts - Chamoli and Bageshwar. The Society for Integrated Management of All Resources (SIMAR) is working in Dewal block, Chamoli, while the Himalayan Organization for Protecting the Environment (HOPE) is working in Kapkot block, Bageshwar district collectively in 18 villages. SIMAR has included an

additional eight villages under the project. During the year, a total of 51 Self Help Producers Groups (SPGs) with 674 members were formed in these project areas. The total savings of these groups reached Rs. 5.7 Lakh, with inter-loaning reaching Rs. 3.18 Lakh, while loan repayment was Rs. 2.64 Lakh. Over the year 36 farmer's trainings / workshops were organized for 1600 farmers, including

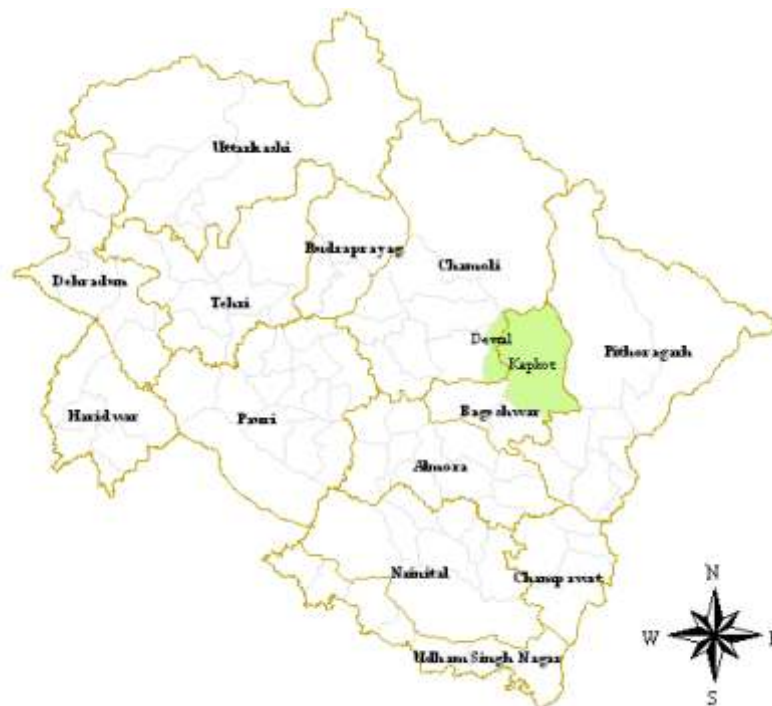
SPG members and individual farmers. Focus areas of these trainings included nursery raising techniques for different HVLV crops, transplanting, institution strengthening, accounting, bookkeeping and the value addition and marketing of different HVLV produce. A total of 187 community meetings were organized in 16 villages with over two thousand farmers participating.

During the period 17 nurseries covering 3 ha of private land were established and nine different HVLV crops were grown by over six hundred families over 17 ha private land. Production was as given in the table below:

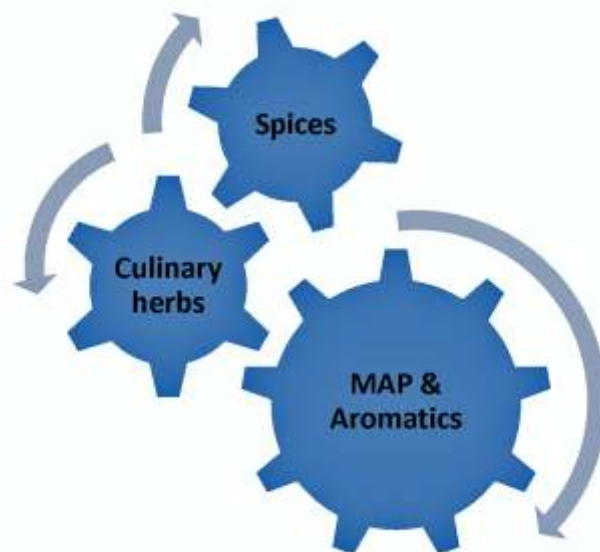
HOPE Project Area	Scientific Name	Production
Coriander	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	324 kg
Chilli	<i>Capsicum frutescence</i>	170 kg
Turmeric	<i>Curcuma longa</i>	1147 kg
<b>SIMAR project area</b>		
Turmeric	<i>Curcuma longa</i>	1240kg
Rosemary	<i>Rosemary officinalis</i>	11.5 kg
Garlic	<i>Allium sativum</i>	1530kg

With the start of production, training of farmers on issues related to drying, grading, packaging were given in both project areas. A total of 8029 kg of coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*), turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), rajma (*Cicer arietinum*), rosemary (*Rosemary officinalis*), garlic (*Allium sativum*), kuth (*Saussurea costus*), kutki (*Picrorhiza kurrooa*) and Chilli (*Capsicum frutescence*) was collected for sale, of which 3367 kg produce was graded and packaged for sale. A total of Rs. 3.70 lakh worth of HVLV crops were sold in the local market.

During the year, partner organizations developed strong collaboration and coordination with different institutions working on the cultivation of different high altitude



crops. SIMAR has since received funds from the Herbal Research and Development Institute (HRDI), Gopeshwar, Chamoli for the cultivation of different high altitude medicinal plants. Close linkages have been developed with the G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), Kosi, Almora and the Centre for Aromatic Herbs (CAP), Dehradun, for getting planting material and technical support. Focus has been on the strengthening of village level institutions to liaison with various institutes/agencies to get necessary support for cultivation and marketing of the crops.



After attaining statehood in 2000, Uttarakhand explored the possibility of leveraging Organic Agriculture as an agent of change in the existing livelihood pattern, ascending from the traditional systems by using improved technology and marketing inputs. Organic farming, with its inherent rudiments of on-farm input production, premium markets and quality parameters, was found to be befitting the situation prevailing in the mountainous regions of the state. Organic farming is further, ideally suited to hill agriculture, especially for Medicinal Aromatic Plants (MAP) and Horticulture. The Trust, with its partner, the Uttarakhand Organic Commodity (UOCB) is focusing on Organic cultivation in the state by supporting two projects – the Centre for Organic farming I and II, since 2004. Overall, the first Phase of support to UOCB (COF-1) was successfully able to reach out to 17,000 farmers and an area of 4,000 hectares was put

under organic certification. Since the landholdings vary from 0.5 to 1 hectare per farmer in Uttarakhand, on an average the annual income increased from Rs. 41,000 to Rs. 64,362 for farmers in hills and from Rs. 26,232 to Rs. 33,232 for farmers in plains. The Second Phase is currently underway which would ensure increased annual incomes of farmers; (ii) an increase in numbers of organic farmers from the current level of 5000 to 50,000 farmers, with 73% being from BPL families; (iv) the present income of BPL families, which is below Rs. 24,000 per annum is expected to increase to Rs. 35,000 per annum; (v) 20,000 families will directly get benefits by continued organic market build up; and (vi) through proposed Green Restaurant outlets.

Monitoring Frame work: A comprehensive work plan was developed and the project is monitored against the milestones set in the plan. Himmotthan provides regular hands on support. Two reviews have been conducted and feedback shared, while an impact assessment of the project is underway. UOCB is also getting regular inputs from the State Level Steering Committee which is responsible to provide inputs and approve the working plan at the Government level. Himmotthan is represented on the Board of the UOCB.



The Peoples Science Institute, Dehradun in association with partner non profit organisations, is implementing the 'Sustaining Mountain Livelihoods' programme in 21 villages in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Livelihoods development plans (LDPs) prepared for the 21 villages will be implemented over a two year period (December 2010 – December 2012). The LDPs have been consolidated into four cluster level plans, keeping village location and potential markets in mind. Clusters were formed due to the fact that for viable market linkages, product volumes must be generated. The 21 selected villages include 11 core villages with whom PSI had worked in Phase I of an SRTT Watershed project, and 10 new villages included to build farm product volumes.

The primary focus of the SML Programme is on raising household incomes through a combination of irrigation, fodder development, animal husbandry, agronomic and horticultural interventions; and secondary income generation activities like poultry, goat rearing, off season vegetable cultivation and developing new products for value addition and marketing.

Monitoring Frame work: An external agency provides technical support to the project, while Himmotthan is providing hands on support to the project. The first monitoring mission to the project is planned in August 2011.



## Pilot projects with the Dr. Y.S. Parmar University, Solon, Himachal Pradesh

The Dr. Y.S. Parmar University, Solon received five projects with different departments from the Trust, which are monitored and provided with ongoing support from Himmotthan. The projects include:

Himmotthan  
Monitoring  
Project 4

### Promotion and use of Bio-fertilizers in Vegetable Cultivation

The role of biofertilizers is well documented as a component of integrated nutrient management system and is very helpful in sustaining production systems at farmer's fields. This is particularly useful in case of marginal and small farmers and is also useful for increasing productivity in the absence of access to other nutrients sources. Biofertilizers are carrier based inoculates containing cells of efficient strains of specific microorganisms, mainly bacterium, which fix atmospheric nitrogen in leguminous and non-leguminous crops, and aid solubilisation and uptake of phosphorus and synthesis of plant growth promoting substances. The aim of the project was to validate and disseminate the use of various bio-fertilizers (*Azotobacter sp*,

*Azospirillum sp*, *Rhizobium sps*, and phosphase solubilisers bacteria (psb) in selected vegetables. The baseline of this project is from scientific data available in background studies and references from similar experiments. Biofertilizer application will help small and marginal farmers to improve their income and reduce the cost of cultivation, lead to safer vegetable production and help to proliferate beneficial microorganisms in the soil, improve soil health and sustain soil fertility. Integrated nutrient management will ensure increase in yield and quality of vegetable crops.

Till date over the past year field trials on Capsicum and Pea have been completed, with positive results. Target groups of farmers were identified for field demonstrations and organizing awareness camps for popularizing the application of biofertilizers in vegetable cultivation. In the coming year awareness trainings and trials and demonstrations on farmers fields will be done.



## Increasing Quality Honey Productivity through Demonstration of Scientific Management

Techniques for beekeeping have become more specialized and mechanized and modern beekeeping has become highly technical. The lack of scientific knowledge of different apicultural aspects and lack of awareness/ extension programmes for popularizing technology pertaining to commercial production of quality honey by beekeepers are impediments in beekeeping development. Of significance is the fact that there is almost no local institution development in the field of honey. This issue is lacking even further in HP due to the fact that there are very few NGOs in the state to make a focused push in the area. Keeping this in view the present project was initiated to bring about improvement in the ongoing approach of beekeepers for honey production based on their knowledge. Objectives include: (i) Bee Hives development and propagation; (ii) Honey bee colonies



development; (iii) Mating nuclei; (iv) Training on scientific management for quality honey production; (v) Training on mass queen rearing; and (vi) Follow up Training/ Awareness camps.

For the identification of potential bee-keeping areas, detailed information on bee-keepers of Solan and Shimla Districts was prepared. Baseline data on practices currently being followed by beekeepers was collected. In the past year several training camps on scientific beekeeping for quality honey production were organized. Lectures on different aspects of Scientific beekeeping was delivered by experts to the participating beekeepers/ farmers from various districts (Mandi, Bilaspur, Sirmour and Hamirpur) of Himachal Pradesh. Over 400 farmers attended various sessions on different days of the training programme. The beekeepers were imparted practical training too. An extension book on scientific beekeeping for quality honey production was compiled edited and published. Training are impacted by delivering lectures as per the given schedule.



## Popularization of locally fabricated Indirect Solar Driers among the Hill farmers in H.P.

A detailed survey covering over 150 farmers highlighted the need for clean, safe and quick

drying of horticultural produce. Solan University has produced pilots of solar driers, which are being replicated, and institutionalized through this project. The main objective of installation of the Indirect Solar Drier in the state is to increase the income of farmers by improving the

quality of the dried products, protection from wild animals and saving in time and labour which can be utilized for farm and off farm activities. A detailed survey carried out by the project highlighted the issue that 90% of the tasks of cutting and drying produce is done by

women, who spend up to 4hrs per day on the drying process alone.

Further, up to 10-25% of the crop is damaged in the post harvest process, and during the open sun drying which is usually carried out. Apart from the dust and dirt which lands on the produce, occasional rain and damp can create problems, as can continuous cloud cover. Furthermore wild animals (mainly monkeys) cause a considerable amount of damage/ loss. Time taken by traditional drying methods is 5-15 days depending upon the crop. In the solar drier such issues are avoided, and furthermore the longevity and colour of the produce remains intact. Quite a large number of women are organized into SHGs which are selling dried vegetables and fruit in small commercial ventures, and this is an ideal option for them.

Carpenters are trained locally to build the solar driers, and the groups are sensitized to their use. Each group provides the wood for the solar drier, as their contribution to the project. The project is to install 15 solar driers in the field, of which 9 solar driers have been installed in 7 villages of Sirmour district, one

village in Solan district and one village in Mandi district so far. Awareness training camps are held to familiarize the villagers with the drier and its processes.

Calendar of drying of various commercial products

No.	Month	Individual farmers	Self Help Groups
1.	January		Baris
2.	February	Coriander, Bottle guard	
3.	March	Fenugreek(Methi)	Coriander, Methi, Sarson and Rye
4.	April	Sarson	
5.	May	Apricot, Barley, Wheat	Apricot
6.	June	Coriander, almonds	Nashasta
7.	July	Wild apricot, apple, peach, pear, beans, garlic, plum, cauliflower	Apple, Tomato, bitter gourd, bottle gourd, lady finger, cauliflower.
8.	August	Red chili, garlic, pudeena, mushroom	Vegetables for pickle, Red chili,
9.	September	Anardana, grapes, chili	Anardana,
10.	October	Red chillis, almonds, maize, chilgoza, walnuts	Pulses, Nutry, til, bean
11.	November	Walnut, turmeric, zinger	Zinger, turmeric
12.	December	Guchhi	



## Management of two spotted spider mite, insect pests and diseases with the help of Predator, *Neoseiulus longispinosus* and other eco-friendly approaches under polyhouse conditions

In the recent past protected cultivation has gained momentum in a few districts of Himachal Pradesh, like Bilaspur, Solan and Shimla. Sweet pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) and tomatoes are important commercial crops with good markets, and the potential to be grown under protected conditions. Similarly, carnation holds a prominent place amongst cut flowers. It is preferred for ornamental purposes and has good market potential. It is also grown successfully under polyhouse conditions. The Two spotted spider mite, *Tetranychus urticae* (Koch), is a polyphagous pest which feeds on many crops in the field as well in polyhouses. It is a serious pest of capsicum, tomato and

carnation amongst others, viz. French bean, rose, okra, soyabean, eggplant etc. Depending upon population pressure, infestation results in loss of chlorophyll and bronzing of foliage, stunted growth and ultimately yield loss. Infestation in carnation results in the production of unattractive flowers. The indiscriminate use of pesticides against this pest has led to the development of resistance, along with creating pesticide residues which are not only harmful to human health but are also causing environmental pollution. In one of the Districts under study i.e. Bilaspur, the farmers are spraying approximately 40 times in a year for the control of the two spotted



spider mite in carnation crops, which is costing them app. Rs 15,000 to 20,000 in a year. Keeping in view the long term adverse effects of chemicals, this project puts forward a safe, cost effective and eco-friendly alternative approach of pest management. The best available option which can be exploited is the use of botanicals as such or in combination with natural enemies. The present project is helping demonstrate and convince farmers about effective eco-friendly management options against mite, other pests and diseases, at the same time making them aware about the benefits of biological control based management practices.

In each village, the baseline data on mite insect-pests and diseases of three crops in farmer's polyhouses has been collected. In each plot pre sowing processes and the

preparation of botanical formulations was done as part of the initial training. The formulations are also being prepared and distributed to more farmers. Predatory mites are being reared under laboratory condition on a large scale and released in the mites-infested polyhouses of farmers for the management of mite pests. Trials related to use of predatory mites under polyhouse conditions are in progress.

During this first year of the project six trainings were conducted in which 302 farmers participated. Out of these, 36 farmers registered themselves for the training on mass multiplication and use of predatory mite which was held under another project. The trainings and the project have received considerable attention in the villages and in local newspapers.

The following farmers were chosen for on field experiments -

District	Village	Name of Farmer	Crop Grown
Bilaspur	Bhager	HS Bhandari, Madan Sharma, Mahant Ram, Roop Singh	Carnation Capsicum, Carnation Carnation, Carnation
	Jukhala	Indar Singh Thakur, Hansraj Thakur,	Carnation Tomato, Capsicum
	Namhol	Jagdish Thakur, Chaman Lal	Carnation, Capsicum
Solan	Dharamapur	Mohan Kashyap, Ram Parkash	Capsicum, Capsicum
	Kandaghat	Inder Pal Bhardwaj, Rupinder Singh	Capsicum Tomato
	Mahogbaag	Pyare Lal, Madan Mohan	Carnation Carnation

Rearing of mite on different hosts and releasing methods



On Morus leaves in petri plates



On Morus leaves in plastic trays



On potted Strawberry plants



On bean plants in pots



On bean plants under cage

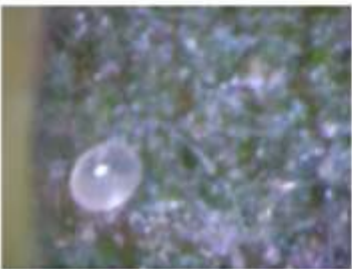


Releasing predatory mite

Different Developmental stages of prey and predatory mite



Prey mite



Predatory mite

# area 3: livestock

	Partner Organization	Project	Project location	Project type – Himmotthan implementation / SRTT monitoring	Role of Partner Organization
1.	Alaknanda Ghati Shilpi Federation (AAGAAS)	IFLDP	Dasholi and Joshimath, Chamoli	Implementation	Implementation
2.	Centre for Ecology Development and Research (CEDAR)	IFLDP Impact study	State Level	Implementation	Research and Technical advisory
3.	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	Fodder Research Project	Selected IFLDP project areas	SRTT Monitoring	Technical advisory
4.	Central Himalayan Rural Action Group (CHIRAG)	IFLDP	Hawalbagh (Almora), Bageshwar (Bageshwar) and Dhari and Ramgarh Nainital	Implementation	Implementation and technical support in Kumaon
5.	Garhwal Vikas Kendra (GVK)	IFLDP	Jaunpur (Tehri)	Implementation	Implementation
6.	Himaliyan Gram Vikas Samiti (HGVS)	IFLDP	Berinag and Gangolihat (Pithoragarh)	Implementation	Implementation
7.	Himalayan Sewa Samiti (HSS)	IFLDP	Kanalicheena (Pithoragarh)	Implementation	Implementation
8.	Jai Nanda Welfare Society (JNWS)	IFLDP	Karanprayag (Chamoli)	Implementation	Implementation
9.	Jakheshwar Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)	IFLDP	Dasholi (Chamoli)	Implementation	Implementation
10.	Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA)	IFLDP	Bhilangna (Tehri)	Implementation	Implementation
11.	Sankalp Samiti	IFLDP	Tharali (Chamoli)	Implementation	Implementation
12.	Sri Bhuvneshwari Mahila Ashram (SBMA)	IFLDP	Ghat (Chamoli)	Implementation	Implementation
13.	Society for Integrated Management of All Resources (SIMAR)	IFLDP	Dewal (Chamoli)	Implementation	Technical advisory

Himmotthan  
Implementation  
Project 4

The Integrated Fodder and Livestock  
Development Project (IFLDP) 2010 - 2011

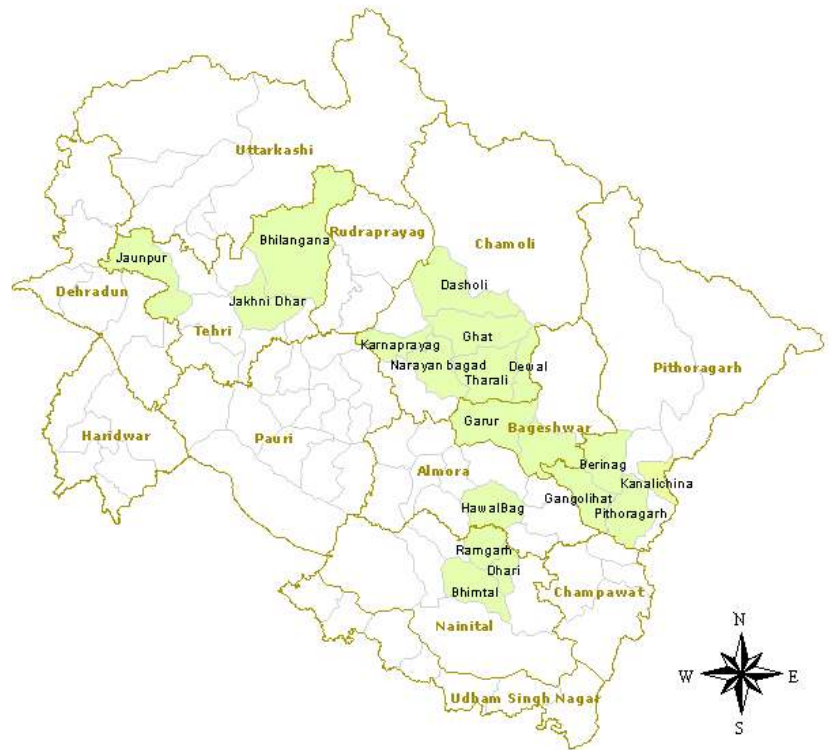
Animal husbandry is an integral part of mountain life, and until a decade or so ago, livestock were a symbol of status and indicator

of prosperity. However with the changing development paradigm in the region and changing patterns of access to natural

resources, acute fodder shortage has become a chronic problem. Poor livestock management practices leading to poor animal health, inbreeding and the lack of breed improvement, and non-existent marketing and post production facilities have severely limited the potential of livestock as a rural industry in the region.

In the given reality the Himmatan Society, initiated a three year project entitled "Integrated Fodder-Livestock Development Project (IFLDP)" in 2008, with the aim to promote rural livelihoods and enhance incomes through an environmentally sustainable, integrated livestock management programme. The project is being successfully implemented with partnership of different government departments (the MGNREGA, ULDB, AHD, etc.) and partner organisations. The project is being implemented in 100 villages in 15 project areas, spread over six hill districts of Uttarakhand and over 8,000 households (covering a population of about 44,000) of the project villages area directly or indirectly involved with the project.

The first phase of the project was completed in February, 2011. The project approaches, strategies and its impact have been considerable, reaching out to a large stakeholder base including the government, village communities, partners NGOs, financial



institutions and funding agencies. It was since felt, that the project needed to be up-scaled, not only in terms of villages adopted but also the extent of the project in each village, strengthening of each activity under the program, and increased involvement of households so as to make a substantial difference in the quality of life. In 2011 therefore, the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai approved a second phase of the IFLDP for another three years to ensure continuity in the programme.

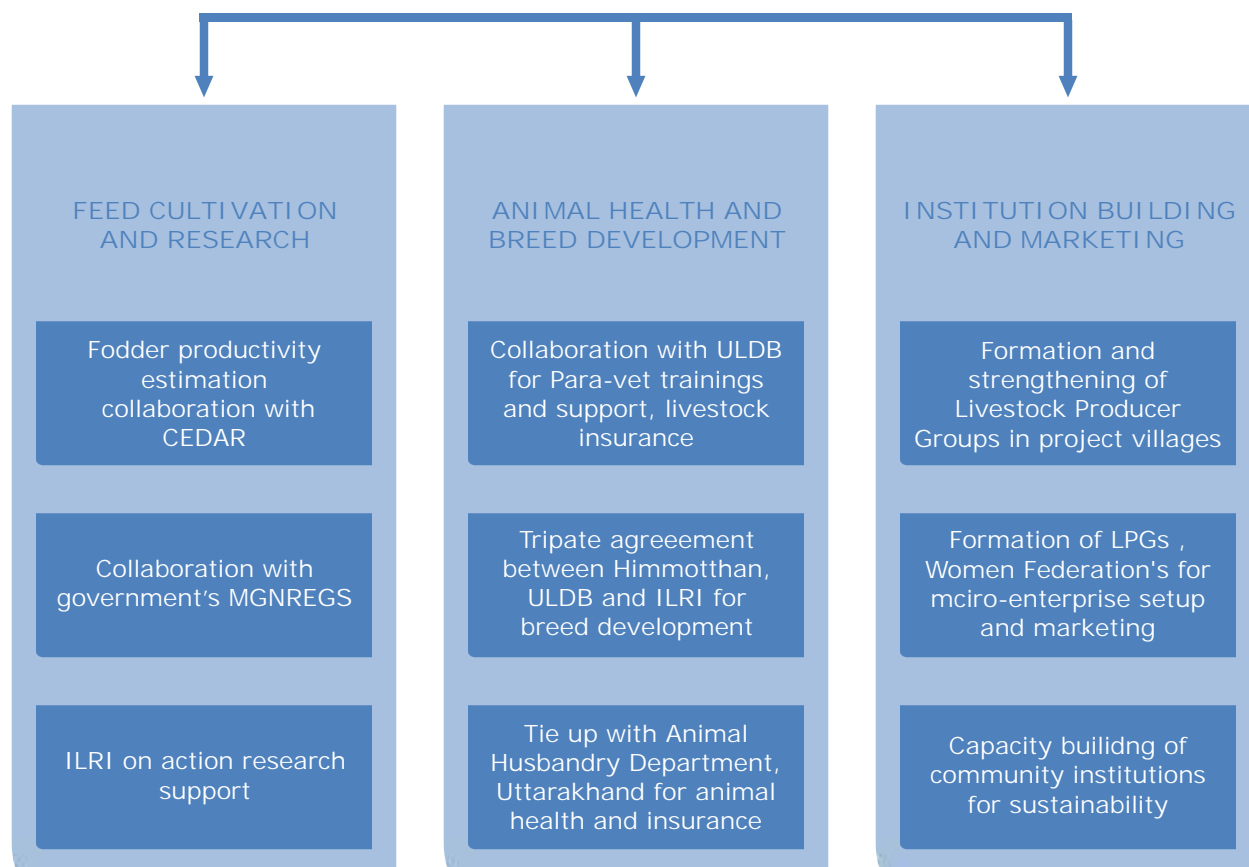


#### LIVESTOCK ISSUES IN UTTARAKHAND

- 50% fodder scarcity
- 95% local, low milk producing breeds
- Poor veterinary services
- Lack of capacity and skill
- Unorganized markets/ existence of middlemen
- Traditional management Practices



## Livestock Programme Design



Key Achievements under the IFLDP in the year 2010-11: Against the Annual Work Plan the project achieved its targets, details of which are as:

1. Feed Cultivation and Research: The project focuses on the lack of availability of quality fodder in the mountains. To achieve increased production of fodder, collaboration and networking with departments within the state government, the International Livestock Research Institute, and the Centre of Environmental Development and Research (CEDAR) for financial, technical, research and impact studies was done. Collaboration with the state government took the form of linking to the MGNREGA scheme through the Rural Development Department and dovetailing of funds (over Rs. Fifteen million for three years) for the development of fodder resources.

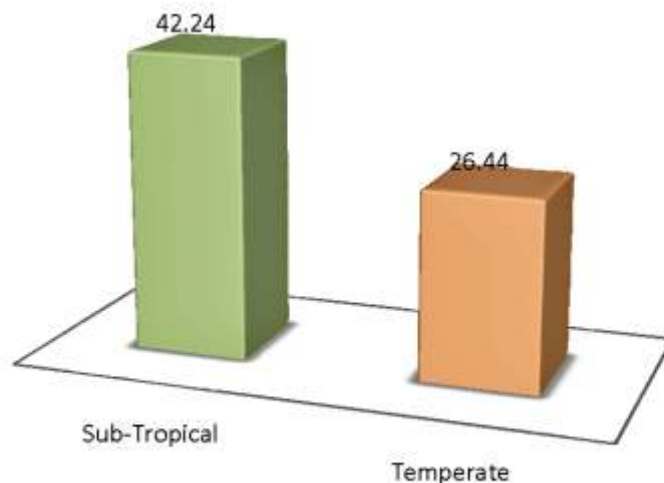
Through the MGNREGA 738 ha of land was brought under fodder plantations on common lands, giving over four and a half thousand card-holders employment for 99,868 days. The project established a total of 523 fodder grass nurseries, producing over 2683 quintals of rootstock. Over two thousand farmers cultivated forage crops on over 25 ha of private land, and produced over 150 MT of forage. A total of over 33 ha private land was covered by fodder plantation. The project demonstrated a total of 233 quintals of roughage, with urea-molasses and 46 quintals of fodder used for silage making. An impact study conducted by CEDAR stated that on an average the total fodder production in subtropical plots was found to be higher ( $42.24 \pm 0.31 \text{ tha}^{-1}\text{yr}^{-1}$ ) as compared to temperate plots, where average total fodder production was estimated to be  $26.44 \pm 0.02 \text{ tha}^{-1}\text{yr}^{-1}$ .

Average fodder availability increased by 3.67 ton/household/year from planted fodder plots (additional fodder for approximately two months of the year). Fodder deficiency in winter months remains a bottleneck until this is scaled up.

Himmatthan is collaborating with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) for action research on exploring and promoting better fodder yielding varieties and nutritional technologies.

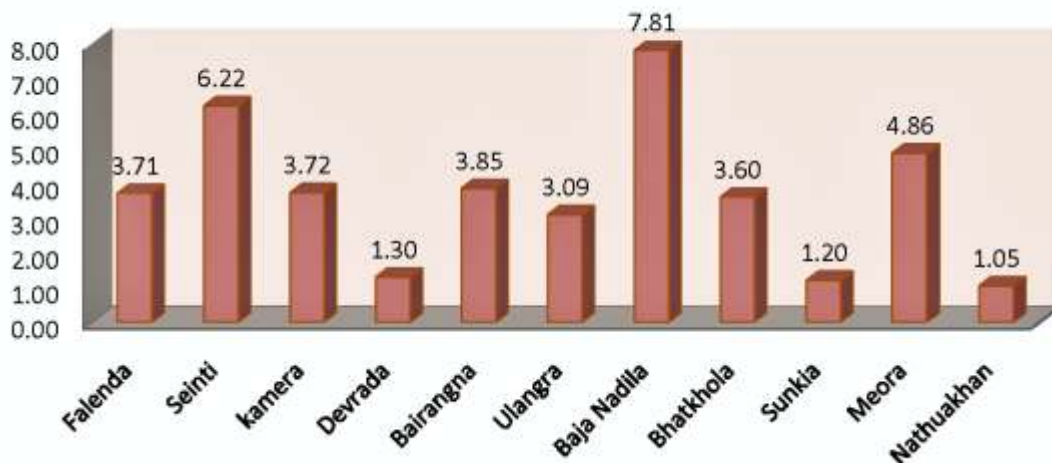
2. Animal Health and Breed Development: Himmatthan collaborated with the Uttarakhand Livestock Development Board (ULDB) in training 17 village youths in para-vet services. Of these 14 now provide regular livestock services in their villages and surrounding areas. The ULDB provides them with technical assistance, accessories and livestock insurance

Average total planted fodder production at different regions in tons/ ha/ yr



support for animal health services and organizing animal health camps for vaccination, de-worming, demonstrations on how to improve stalls, feeding and health. During the year, a total of 109 livestock health camps were organised and over 4500 animals

Per Household Planted Fodder Availability from Fodder Plots (t/yr)



support. During the period 924 cows and 577 buffaloes were artificially inseminated, and the success rate was recorded at 59 and 44.9%, respectively. A tripartite agreement between ILRI and ULDB was signed, towards developing a model for breed development in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand. The Animal Husbandry Department, Uttarakhand is providing technical

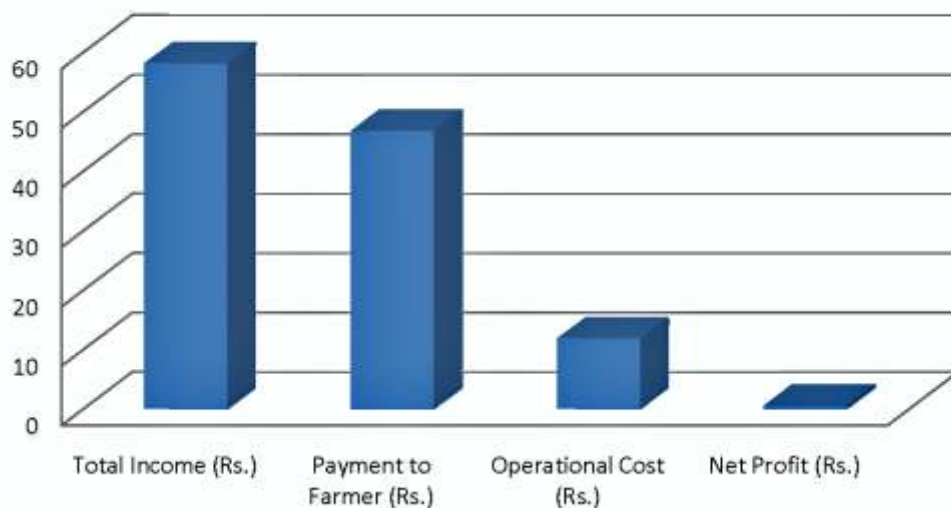
were treated and vaccinated. In all, 765 livestock were insured in convergence with the ULDB and AHD. Over 10 million in funds were mobilised from banks under the NABARD sponsored "Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)" for the purchasing of livestock of improved breed. Additionally, a total of 19 silo-towers, 224

cattle troughs and 18 biogas plants were constructed; 108 cattle sheds were renovated and 78 chaff cutters distributed for better livestock management practices during the year.

3. Institution Building and Marketing: Livestock Producer Groups (LPGs) and Federations are the focal point for project interventions and all activities are carried out by formation and strengthening of LPGs and LPG women federations. The collective marketing of dairy and livestock based products is promoted under the umbrella of the Women Federations. Till date, a total of 1323 community meetings were organized for building the capacity of community members and over 23,698 members participated. Overall 301 trainings were imparted from which 5740 participants benefited. In addition project staff was orientated and many technical training, meetings and workshops were organized. A total of 250 LPGs with more than 2500 members have either been formed or adopted under the project since inception, and 12 LPG

women federations are now fully functional. Over 207 LPGs with 2160 members from 76 villages are associated with these federations. During the year, 130 federation meetings were organized in which over 3600 members participated to discuss and strategize on business planning and marketing. During the period, the total income of 10 federations was estimated to be Rs. 58 Lakh, out of which approximately Rs. 47 Lakh was paid to 3448 families who sold the milk to the federations, and about Rs. 12 Lakh rupees were spent as operational costs for transportation, rent, collection charges etc. The net benefit of the federation after the payment of milk to the villagers and operational costs was estimated at about Rs. 64,500, which is a quite good amount for village run federations without any prior experience of marketing and such activities. The profit made by the herbal veterinary medicine unit was Rs. 21,108. Simultaneously, four federations have initiated federation led microfinance activities and lent loans to 31 LPG members for purchasing of improved breeds.

Performance of all Dairies: Income-Expenditure (Lakh Rs.)





4. Other Project Interventions:  
Himmotthan initiated and piloted the demonstration of goat breed improvement, and introduced two breeds (Totapari and Sirohi) in select villages. 41 goats were placed in 6 project villages, and the project is under constant and sustained monitoring. For assessing the fodder productivity and impacts a third party impact study of the fodder programme was carried out.

Additionally, to create awareness on the project and to highlight the impacts on the ground, a documentary film - "PAHEL" was made on the project learning's, in both Hindi and English.

Keeping expansion in mind, the IFLDP Phase-II proposal has been developed with the consultation of different stakeholders, and has been approved by the Sir Ratan Tata Trust for another three years.

For monitoring and guiding of project interventions the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting was organized in the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary & FRDC, Government of Uttarakhand. The project also developed a three year (2011-2014) prospective proposal amounting to Rs. 30 million, on fodder development under the MGNREGA and submitted it to the state government.

## Total Milk Collection and Sale by the Federations

### Case Study : Subsistence

Manisha Devi, her husband, Dilbar Singh and their two children are residents of Siroli village, Chamoli, located in the upper reaches of the Uttarakhand Himalayas. Siroli is situated 15 km from the district headquarter, Gopeshwar, a potential market for various village goods, particularly farm produce, including milk. The family struggles to make a decent living, based on mainly agriculture and livestock. In addition Dilbar now works as a driver at Rs. 3000 a month. When the IFLDP project started in Siroli, Manisha Devi joined it as a member of the Vyomkesh Livestock Producer Group (LPG) on 27 August 2008. Initially she sold 2 liters of milk to the market through middlemen, and received Rs. 13 per liter, giving her an income of Rs. 780 per month. In the month of February 2008, 22 Women LPGs of the three project villages of the Mandal cluster formed an LPG Women's Dairy Federation called "Maa Ansuya" rid themselves of the middlemen. The Maa Ansuya federation started milk collection and marketing in March 2009. Manisha Devi, who started selling milk through the Maa Ansuya Dairy Federation in March 2009, began to earn Rs. 1200 per month for two liters of milk at the rate of Rs. 20 per liter, increasing her income by Rs. 420 per month. Manisha Devi was then inspired to submit a loan proposal through her LPG to their federation, for the purchase of an improved, high yielding milch cow. The federation approved her loan for Rs. 10,000 and she collected the remainder of the amount from helpful relatives. She purchased the cow which gave 10 liter a day, and started selling an average of 8 liters daily. Her monthly income jumped to Rs. 4800 per month. Dilbar Singh left his driving job to support his wife in their growing livestock rearing activities and agriculture. They are now planning to purchase another improved milch cow to further and improve their income.



## Case Study – Community Development



Ganora village, situated in the border district of Pithoragarh, was taken under the project in 2008 because of the huge fodder shortage in the area. All households purchased fodder from the local market or nearby villages. Women walked over five kilometres daily into the forest to collect fodder, returning with bulky, heavy loads on steep, rocky paths. Through the IFLDP project, fodder plantation was carried out over 15 ha of community land with active participation of the village community. Due to excellent protection and management by the villagers, production from the plots has gone up from nothing to 25 tonnes/ year. Bahadur Singh, the sarpanch of the van panchayat tells everyone willing to listen, that over the 3-4 years of project interventions they are now not only self-sufficient in fodder, but have started selling fodder to other villages. Last year the village groups sold Rs. 18,000 worth of fodder from the plot. Bahadur also points out the reappearance of young plants of a rare species of oak (*Quercus lamiginosa*) in the protected plot. Officers of the Forest Department have visited the plot more than once, much to the satisfaction of the villagers. The village women have now made it a personal mission to cover all their nearby wastelands with fodder species with the support of MGNREGA funds, as demonstrated so successfully in the Himmotthan project. On a recent visit by the Himmotthan team, villagers from neighbouring villages have requested inclusion in the project, promising to work with all their hearts to deliver results similar to those of Ganora.

## Case Study - Youth

Jeevan, a youth from Simayal village in Nainital district, completed his schooling in 2005, but like many other young men from the area, was unable to continue his education because of the lack of funds. He was looking for a job in the nearby towns when he met the local IFLDP partner organization in the area. In 2008 he enlisted for training as a Para-vet with the ULDB, under the Himmotthan IFLDP project. Back in the village after the training he began door to door visits in his own and neighbouring villages. His tasks were two fold – to conduct artificial insemination to breed better quality calves, and basic animal health treatment. Initially, despite an obvious need, the novelty of a village based Para-vet amused the villagers. He also faced some issues with the local government vet. In time however, as his work began to show results, he began to increasingly receive calls from livestock keepers. When the cows he worked with calved well and his basic medication aided common ailments, demand for his services shot up. With constant support and encouragement from the project his area of work now covers about 15 villages, some not even project villages. He recently bought a motorbike and now visits at least five to six houses each day. He conducts about 40-50 AI a month, charging Rs. 150 per AI. For small ailments and first aid he receives Rs. 50 per case. His current earnings from what he now sees as his “business”, is about Rs. 5-6 thousand a month. He dreams of an office, an assistant and a larger “business”, in a region where the out-migration of young males is reversing local population trends. The change from a diffident youth who could not see a future for himself, to a young entrepreneur with confidence and a vision, took all of three years.



## Case Study - Gender

(Responding to the demand of villagers across IFLDP project villages, Himmotthan, along with its field partner organization, the Mount Valley Development Agency (MVDA), applied for a loan amount of over Rs. 10 million to NABARD, under their "Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS). The loan was specifically for purchasing improved (more productive) milch livestock and goats for 159 women farmers from 45 Livestock Producer's Groups (LPGs) of the Bhilangna block, Tehri district. The loan was sanctioned by the Uttarakhand Grameen Bank, Ghansali, and most of the farmers have now availed the loans.)

In 2001 there were 34 million widows in India, most living in conditions of social, economic and cultural deprivation. Himalayan villages have many, living alone or with their children. In the mountains the risks of out-migration or simple day to day living in an unstable geographical environment takes thousands of lives a year. Sarojini Devi lost her husband many years ago, but luckily, shares a home with her old mother-in-law and two children in the remote village of Thayeli, in a district made famous by a dam – Tehri, which eventually did little to mitigate local poverty. Her life felt like a constant grind, a long, unending journey in which even feeding her children regularly was an achievement, and their education a dream. Sarojini Devi was one of the first beneficiaries of a loan procured by the Himmotthan IFLDP. She purchased a milch buffalo about a year ago and started selling three liters of milk a day through her local IFLDP Federation managed dairy. The milk brought her Rs 1800 a month, of which she repays Rs. 1000 as the monthly loan installment. She is now planning on another loan, and another buffalo. The IFLDP community led micro-dairy ensures proper marketing of the milk and gives her a voice, and an income. The other nine IFLDP dairies, all placed in remote and inaccessible areas, are now leading many poor families like Sarojini's, to adopt dairying as a primary means of livelihood. Her children now go to the village school.



# area 4: forests

	Partner Organization	Project	Project location	Project type – Himmotthan implementation / SRTT monitoring	Role of Partner Organization
1	CHEA	NTFP & MAP	Lamgarah	Implementation	Implementation
2	INHERE	NTFP & MAP	Almora	Implementation	Implementation
3	HGVS	NTFP & MAP	Pithoragarh	Implementation	Implementation
4	ANKUR	NTFP & MAP	Ghat, Chamoli	Implementation	Implementation and technical support
5	AGAASS	Nettle		Implementation	Implementation
6	JNWS	Nettle		Implementation	Implementation
7	Rachna	Rural Tourism	Raithal, Uttarkashi	Implementation	Implementation
8	Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board (UBFDB)	Bamboo	State level	Implementation	Implementation

Himmotthan  
Implementation  
Project 5

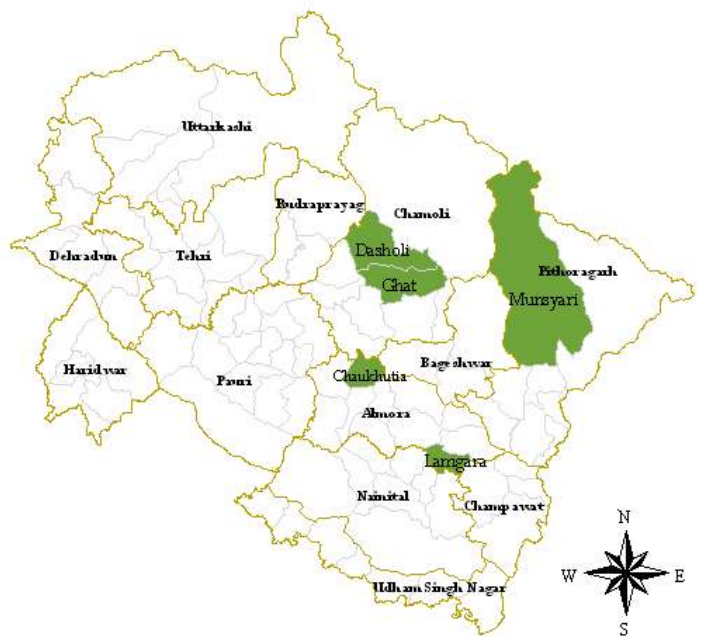
Sustaining Rural Livelihoods through the Conservation and Cultivation of Non Timber Forest Produce and Medicinal & Aromatic Plants in Uttarakhand. (Under the CLMP programme)

Uttarakhand commands a unique position in the global medicinal plant scenario as many important drug and aromatic plant species are endemic to its mountain regions. The state is recognized for high and mid- altitude plants including herb, shrub and tree species which have enormous medicinal value. The state officially has 34662 square km of area under different forest cover, which is about 64.81% of its total geographical area. However, the status of Non-timber Forest Product (NTFP) cultivators and Medicinal and Aromatic Plant (MAP) growers in the state is not very strong.

At the same time, this situation provides an opportunity to the individual cultivator and farmer groups to step in and add to their livelihood options through the cultivation and selling of NTFP, medicinal and aromatic plants. The multiplicity of using NTFPs and their importance in reaching subsistence as well as income generation necessities in the region are now being increasingly recognized. These NTFP, medicinal and aromatic plants are annual, biennial or perennial in nature, and therefore can be grown in combinations to gain sustainable economic returns. There is a visible

need to consider the management and use of NTFPs along with MAPs, under the community wide forestry framework. There is also a need to think about the cultivation and management of NTFP and MAP in the vast Van Panchayats surrounding the villages. Apart from Van Panchayat land, cultivation of MAPs and NTFPs can also be promoted on private land, if provided essential technical support. However, in the higher reaches, production and marketing has high input costs. Small farms, no water, no mechanization, huge transport costs and high risks imply that produce can only be sold locally. The importance of niche crops and forest produce, which are low volume when dried, therefore is high. The production of medicinal and aromatic plants has been encouraged across the state, and several technical government institutions have been set up to help propagate the species. Although several non profit institutions are working on this issue, a major gap remains in the strengthening of village level institutions which can produce the crop in bulk and market it with confidence.

It was to fill this gap that this project was initiated - with the aim of enhancing the skills



of local inhabitants in cultivation, value addition and marketing of selected NTFP and MAP species in partnership with four grass-root organizations working in three mountain districts (Chamoli, Almora and Pithoragarh) of Uttarakhand. In two districts, the organizations ANKUR and the Himalayan Gram Vikas Samiti (HGVS) are implementing the project in high (1700-2500 meter) altitude areas, while the remaining two organizations on the project – the Central Himalayan Environmental Association (CHEA) and INHERE are working in the mid altitudes (900-1500 meter). 28 villages are participating in this project,





selected on a cluster basis with similar socio-cultural backgrounds and common natural resource use patterns. The major thrust of the project is on organizing and strengthening village level institutional structures for developing a resource base of NTFPs

and MAPs in villages, their value addition and finally for marketing of the produce; generation of a critical volume of selected MAP/NTFP species in Van Panchayats and private lands, which is the basic requirement for setting up of a profitable venture; standardize procedures involved in the certification of MAP crops on private land, and the process of acquiring exit passes (*Ravanna*) from the Forest Department, for NTFP produced from *Van Panchayat* lands; developing a package of practices for plantation, maintenance and harvesting of MAP and NTFP species under different geographical conditions; developing a realistic target of production of selected NTFP and MAP species for sale in the market, focusing on input costs involved in cultivation, value addition and output in terms of capital generated and identification of markets for the MAP and NTFP produced and the economic dynamics involved, such as cost benefit analysis for each product based on present production and future targets.

During initiation of the project 395 villagers were brought together in 41 SPGs. As of now the total savings of the groups are Rs. 5.5 Lakh with inter-loaning at Rs. 4 Lakh, of which about Rs. 3 Lakh have been repaid. A total of 47 trainings / workshops were conducted for SPG members in which 1214 farmers of 28

villages participated. Major trainings and workshops were organized on: village micro-planning and baseline survey, nursery rising; group formation, accounting and bookkeeping systems; pre-plantation techniques on common lands; plantation and management of NTFP and MAP species. CBO meetings were organized on a regular basis to create a favorable atmosphere for the project. A total of 307 CBO meetings were conducted and were attended by 4512 farmers, mainly women.

A total of 13 MAP nurseries across 621 sq m were established for production of quality planting material in all four clusters. In high altitude areas Kuth, Kalazeera and Rosemary and in mid altitudes Satawar and Rosemary nurseries were established. In addition a total of 79 nursery beds were established for production of NTFP with focus on Tejpatta (Synonyms *talamala*), Reetha (*Sapindus trifoliata*) and Giloy.

Common Name	Scientific name	Area under nursery (m <sup>2</sup> )
Kuth	<i>Saussurea costus</i>	84
Kalazera	<i>Bunium persicum</i>	35
Kutki	<i>Picrorhiza kurrooa</i>	150
Satawar	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>	247.2
Rosemary	<i>Rosemary officinalis</i>	104.15

At CHEA and INHERE locations a total of 33 households (4 villages) planted Satawar, Rosemary and Lemongrass on 2 ha of private land. HGVS and ANKUR focused on the cultivation of Kuth, Kalazera, and Lemongrass in 5 villages. Collectively 62 households brought 7 ha of private land under these crops. For common land plantations, pre-plantation works such as land cleaning, contour terracing, stone fencing, etc. were carried out by the community. 30 ha of common land was prepared for plantation by the construction of 23350 running meter (RM) of contour terracing

and 950 RM stone fencing. A total of 84,660 seedlings of eleven species of NTFP and MAP were planted.

Regular protection and management of planted plots was carried out with community participation. 3493 farmers of four project areas were involved in different project activities like savings and inter-loaning among SPG members; training and capacity building; nursery raising; pre-plantation and plantation on common and private lands and plantation on private lands.

The focus of the project is now on the formation and strengthening of farmer's federations at the cluster level, and establishing market linkages for sale of different produce at competitive market rates. Focus is also given on standardization of package of practices for cultivation, sustainable harvesting and marketing of different NTFP and MAP species.



Type	Common Name	Scientific name	No. of Saplings planted
Tree	Tajpatta	<i>Synonyms talamala</i>	6465
Tree	Reetha	<i>Sapindus trifoliata</i>	5200
Tree	Harar	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	550
Tree	Bahera	<i>Terminalli belerica</i>	575
Tree	Amla	<i>Emblica officinalis</i>	1950
Shrub	Rosemary	<i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i>	7320
Shrub	Giloy	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>	2000
Herbs	Lemongrass	<i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>	55400 root slips

**Himmothan  
Implementation  
Project 6**

**Himalayan Nettle Fiber: A Community Based Approach to Sustainable Harvesting, Value Addition and Marketing**

The mountains provide very few sustainable, economically viable alternatives to communities. In recent years however, one of the options receiving increasing attention is the use of Himalayan wild nettle for fibre and fabric. This plant is providing employment to fiber collectors, processors, traders and exporters. Nettle fiber and products are being increasingly recognized for their role in rural mountain livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and export.

Himalayan Nettle is an evergreen herb species found in the upper reaches (1200-3000m). The plant can attain a height up to 12 feet, and is





generally found in broad leaf forests under shady and moist conditions. It is noted for attracting wildlife

and has high leaf litter which improves soil health. Nettle has a long history of domestic use as a herbal remedy in the treatment of rheumatic gout, besides adding nutrition to the daily diet. The stem bark contains fibers which have unique qualities including strength and smoothness, which if appropriately treated give a

silk like luster and lightness.

Himmotthan initiated the Himalayan Nettle project with two partner organizations, 1- Alakhnanda Ghati Shilpi Federation (AAGAAS), 2- Jai Nanda Welfare Society (JNWS) in three blocks of district Chamoli. Fiber user groups (FUGs), small groups of nettle artisans were developed for taking responsibility for the main tasks including resource development,

collection, primary processing, spinning, and weaving to make final product.

Over the last year 26 FUGs were formed in 25 project villages. Trainings on fiber processing were organized and 49 session of the FUGs were convened in which 283 members participated. 8 CBO meetings were held at the cluster level in which 499 members participated. A total of 78 kg of nettle seed for plantation was collected and was sown in over 65.5 Ha of Van Panchayat land. 1893 kg of raw nettle fiber was collected from project areas by FUG members, which is then to be processed in the following year. In this year 2323 kg of fiber collected in the previous year underwent primary processing and 902 kg of processed fiber was produced. 320 kg of processed fiber was carded producing 236 kg of carded fiber for spinning. Of this 160 kg was spun to procure 140 kg of nettle yarn by members of weaving cluster FUGs.

Over the last year Rs 2,41,968 was earned by FUG members under the nettle seed collection, sowing, fiber collection, processing and spinning. Studio Alaya a market based design and marketing company has been engaged for design development, showcasing and ensuring the marketing of the final produce.

**Himmotthan  
Implementation  
Project 7**

## **Rural tourism : Home in the Himalayas (Under the CLMP programme)**

Research, Advocacy and Communication in the Himalayan Areas (RACHNA), is an independent, entrepreneurial non-profit organization formed with a mandate to work and promote green business, practices and behavior for lasting protection of the Himalayan eco- system. RACHNA registered as an exempt nonprofit organization in mid 2004. RACHNA initiated the

Home in the Himalayas Project, under the CLMP programme of Himmotthan, in 6 villages in Uttarkashi district. The villages are Raithal, Barsu, Kyark, Bandrani, Bhatwari and Pala. The broad spectrum under which the project was initiated encompassed the head water areas of Garhwal with a focus around Gangotri. The project focus is on utilizing and transforming the



existing tourism market as driver for initiating a chain of positive social change, economic development, and conservation of natural resources in the headwaters of the Ganges and Yamuna rivers.

Over the last year an extensive survey of visitors was carried out, through a team of trained young village youth. A detailed list of flora and fauna was obtained from the Forest Department to develop brochures and pamphlets on the local environment, while students of IRMA were actively involved in collecting local information. Reforestation is a major focus and with collaborative efforts of the local community and "Trees for the Future", 6000 citrus plants were planted. To fulfill needs of the local community for ecological restitution, fodder and fuel wood supply on sustainable basis, a green gullak program was initiated to connect the rural community and urban youths. Training programmes were held for local youth on tourism based activities including bird watching, trekking and mountaineering. A stakeholder workshop was held in Uttarkashi for local entrepreneurs and interested community members in this program. Issues discussed included developing a business plan of Kyark village, identification of groups for establishing tented accommodation, anthropogenic pressures on ecosystems, utilization of NEREGA resources

for the purpose of reforestation activities and formation of conservation committee and fund for Bhatwari area.



The project motivated and facilitated local entrepreneurs to make the necessary investment to create infrastructure. Some developed accommodations through investing their own savings or credit from family and friends. Some took loans from banks under the Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali Prayatan Swarojgar Yojana. There are a total of seven such investments made by entrepreneurs. Of these five were created by individual entrepreneurs which required immediate support of training and marketing from Home in the Himalayas. During the period a total of Rs. 37 Lakh in funds were generated from other sources for construction of guest houses. In addition more than Rs. 17 Lakh was dovetailed from MGNREGA for the development of trails and view points along the trekking route to Dyara bugyal. During the period over 80 tourists stayed in the guest houses in four villages. Their number will increase gradually in future with the increase in basic infrastructure facilities.

### Himotthan Monitoring Project 8

## Uttarakhand Bamboo and Natural Fiber Based Livelihood Programme

The state government of Uttarakhand identified bamboo and ringal as forest produce that could lead to economic benefits for a large number of rural people. The state has approximately 13,000 van panchayats which control 522,163 ha of forest land. In addition, large tracts of

reserve forest controlled by the forest department were also identified as being suitable for bamboo. It was felt by the government that awareness programmes to sensitize local people of the use and potential of bamboo along with large scale plantation of



bamboo would help develop a new livelihood option in the state. Also that training of ringal and bamboo artisans could bring considerable financial returns to the region. Ecologically, bamboo is beneficial in many ways. It offers effective defence against soil erosion, a major problem in hilly areas, besides providing watershed protection and groundwater conservation. A sizeable portion of the fuel and fodder needs in rural areas are currently met through the lopping of trees which are slow to regenerate. Bamboo is a fast regenerating source of fuel wood (charcoal) and fodder. The utility of bamboo as a building material is an added attraction. Uttarakhand is prone to earthquakes and is categorized under seismic Zone 4 and Zone 5. Hence, bamboo-based housing is ideal for the region.

Overall, the first Phase (2003-07) of support to the UBFDB leveraged around 221 million from other sources for project activities and successfully reached out to 2000 households

## Policy achievements of the Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fibre Development Board:

- Government Order (2004): Bamboo can be cut when grown on private land, is recognized as a grass
- Government Order (2009): Ringal can be extracted from the reserved forest
- Government Order (2010): Development of a Fibre Bank. Minimum support price declared by the State government
- Government Order (2010): Nettle can be collected from Reserved Forest areas
- Central Policy (2010) Central Government recognized Uttarakhand (one of 5 states) as a focus state for Nettle and Hemp for fibre in the 'Policy for Natural Fibre for India

directly, across 325 villages. 10,836 hectares were brought under bamboo plantation and incomes of artisan households increased on average from Rs. 6000 to 22000 through bamboo and natural fiber based livelihood promotion interventions of the project. The second phase of the project currently underway is expected to increase artisan household incomes from Rs. 18,000 to 30,000 annually. The project is training over 480 artisans in new bamboo, ringal and natural fiber based interventions, adding value to the present product range. Craft centric training manuals, craft documents, bilingual guides and product catalogues are being developed during the project to facilitate marketing ventures. The project interventions are also expected to shift bamboo utilization rates from the current 30-40% to 80% in project villages.

Monitoring Frame work: A comprehensive work plan was developed and monitored is against milestones set in the plan. At the same time an external agency "ALAYA" is helping provide business inputs and market reach. An external review is planned in October 2011. Feedback from progress reports is shared with the partners. UBFDB is also getting regular inputs from the State Level Steering Committee which is responsible to provide inputs and approve the working plan at the government level.

Under the project CEDAR is looking at the potential of linking developmental activities undertaken by different governmental and non-governmental programs which can generate carbon credits to benefit the local population. For example; briquette making using pine needles, biogas, fodder generation, biofuels, micro-hydels etc . However, as of June 2010 the number of CDM projects approved in India was 1561, out of which 34 projects were approved from Uttarakhand, while none of the projects in India were under the forestry component of CDM. Uttarakhand being a forest rich state of India has significant potential for attracting funds under CDM. So far the executive board (EB) of CDM has been reluctant to consider carbon sequestration by forestry projects for funding. Till now, only a few non-forestry projects (hydro-power projects) of Uttarakhand have been able to get registered for CDM. There are indications that the EB are willing to consider projects under "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)" as valid under CDM. The data on carbon sequestration potential of Uttarakhand needs to be worked out and this can be a major thrust area for research. With REDD, local communities can be rewarded for conserving their forests, so the approach works for poverty alleviation as well as emissions reduction. Evidence is showing that REDD is simple and workable. India advocates a comprehensive approach to REDD, which has been termed as the REDD+ approach. Among

other things, this approach argues for compensating developing countries not only for reducing deforestation and degradation but also with an eye on poverty alleviation. In a nutshell, this would involve compensating those communities that can demonstrate forest conservation on their areas. This approach will result in emission reduction as well poverty alleviation. It is an ideal situation for a developing state like Uttarakhand, also because of its forest resources and history of active community participation (there are more than 12,000 Van Panchayats (VP's) or community managed forests covering more than 0.5 million ha). Moreover, Heavy sums of money flows each year from Government schemes such as MNERGS, National Bamboo Mission, Foreign funding agencies like UNDP, World Bank and Indigenous Philanthropic Trusts such as the SRTT and SDTT. Cross sectoral linkages between forestry and other sectors are important from the REDD + point of view. In addition, various sectors/government, ministries have inadvertent impacts on the forestry sector.



# area 5: communities

The success of any project depends on its participatory approach and strong community institutions, therefore all projects under HMP focus mainly on the development of and strengthening of community institutions. Regular capacity building and training programmes are inbuilt into projects. To take this forward a discussion and field visit was undertaken by the Civil Society and Governance team of the Trust to HMP field locations.

Elements of convergence with other programmes of Himmothan Pariyojana, as also adopting a cluster of villages for similar interventions would be central to the design of new projects; consequently, Himmothan would ensure integration and a cluster approach while selecting the villages. Furthermore, whilst continuing its ongoing work, Himmothan will continue to focus on Knowledge Management, Database development and Research. These will also feed into its growing interest in developing more intensive physical, technical and financial monitoring and evaluation systems for programmes within the Himmothan Pariyojana.

Himmothan  
Implementation  
Project 9

## Promotion of Micro-Finance Functions (Under the CLMP programme)

Subsistence agriculture is the main livelihood source for rural households in Uttarakhand. Very small and fragmented holdings and reliance on traditional food crops for household consumption contributes to the incidence and degree of poverty. Women from poor households generally work together and social capital amongst them is high, providing the basic foundation for formation of village level institutions, especially SHGs or activity groups. However, timely availability of credit to the village level institutions is a major constraint in initiating or promoting livelihood activities. The formation and strengthening of SHGs alone is unable to address the issue, as their loan instruments with short repayment periods and comparatively higher rates of interest are inadequate to finance micro-enterprise investments. This situation

contributes to limited credit absorption capacity and credit demand. Financial institutions are usually apprehensive in providing funding for backward and forward linkages in the form of large investments, as they perceive them as fraught with risk.

The above scenario reveals that demand for financial services in mountains requires a system which allows the rural community to engage in low risk and multi-production strategies, provision for small loans with minimum of procedures, and allowing for repayment of loans in frequent, small installments. However, the provision of financial services alone is not an effective tool to strengthen rural communities and improve their livelihoods. It is also vital to build capacities of SHGs and federations in

enterprise development and management. In addition, it has become imperative to integrate and strengthen the linkage between SHGs/federations and FFIs to establish micro-enterprises so as to improve livelihoods of the poor and women.

A Strategy Paper on Microfinance for Himmotthan was prepared which defines the role of microfinance in Himmotthan for selected Himmotthan Pariyojana projects, where federations are already existing or expected to come up in the project period. It is evident that to build a strong network of financial services for people in the mountains, microfinance is necessary but not sufficient for promoting livelihoods. There is the need to add on services like training, capacity building, technical assistance, productivity enhancement, market linkages, building institutions/producers organizations.

A six months SGP, "Planning Phase for Microfinance based Enterprise Promotion Project in Pithoragarh", was submitted to the Trust by HGVS with assistance from Himmotthan. The expansion of the learning's from Phase-I are planned and a detailed proposal for the same is being developed within the larger microfinance promotion plan under the Himmotthan Pariyojana. The SGP is an intermediate support for HGVS to develop a detailed action plan in consultation with Himmotthan. The project will include the following activities: (a) inclusion of groups from other projects and their clusterization; (b) developing a realistic business plan for identified products; (c) baseline study for the livelihood interventions in proposed villages; (d) training and capacity building of federation leaders; (e) liaising with NABARD and line department for convergence in the upcoming projects; and (f) exposure to organizations promoting enterprise with community institutions.

A systems study of SHGs was initiated in this

year and SHG book keeping formats were collected from different organizations. It was found that different Himmotthan Pariyojana programmes have adopted different accounting and book-keeping systems for their SHGs and Federations. Due to the adoption of different accounting and bookkeeping formats, it is very difficult to compile group / federation related data at the Himmotthan level. Therefore, there is a need to develop standardized accounting and book-keeping systems across all Himmotthan pariyojana programmes.

The process of standardizing the accounting and book keeping systems at SHG and federation level has been processed after studying the present systems of accounting and book keeping being used by different partner NGOs, and also those used by similar microfinance related projects such as *Aajeevika*, SGSY, etc. After the development of a standardized system, a workshop will be held with the objective of preparing a common format for all SHGs, Federations under Himmotthan. Common books and formats will be printed at the Himmotthan level, which will be used by SHGs and federations to maintain their records.

In October 2010, a staff from Himmotthan microfinance team participated in the Microfinance Colloquium (4-6 Oct'10) organized by Centre for Microfinance (CmF), Rajasthan at Jaipur. The three days colloquium was a great learning exposure for better understanding of Microfinance in greater context. Also the various stakeholders including NGOs, federation leaders and Banks were sharing a common platform.

A pilot project on microfinance is being implemented by the Trust since 2009, to form and strengthen community based institutions for livelihood promotion. The project is being implemented in two clusters i.e. Chaudmuniya and Nachani in Berinag and Munsiyari block of Pithoragarh district in Uttarakhand. The total

population covering both the clusters is 7770, male and female population is 3937 and 3833 respectively. During the period a total of 80 SHGs, having 815 members were formed in 38 revenue villages, thus reaching to almost 50 percent of households residing in the project villages. The total savings of SHGs was Rs 4.3 lakh and amount being used by 378 households for inter loaning was Rs 4.97 lakh (Table-6b). The number of CCL fixed and pending with banks are 16 and 04, respectively. Amount sanctioned under CCL was about 4 lakh. These SHGs have been further federated at cluster level and a total of 7 cluster level federations have been formed upto March 2011.

SHG members are being encouraged to utilize their land for vegetable cultivation for commercial purposes apart from their domestic consumption. At present 20 % of SHG members in the 12 federation are selling the vegetables in the market. An estimated comparison was done

to compare the vegetable production for commercial and domestic purposes in the first and second quarter of 2010-11.

A two days Training of staff towards understanding of concept of cluster-federation and business development was conducted. NABARD is also supporting the Nachni cluster federation. A revolving fund is being established with the federation. Total revenue generated with the business was Rs. 98,964 with net profit of Rs. 6506. Kamdhenu cluster federation has done a total business of Rs. 7,39,966 and earned a profit of Rs.4281. With the assistance from NABARD, Nachni, Tejam and Bhainskal clusters have promoted a vegetable trading business. 20 ferroline tanks, 20 vermi-compost pits and a polyhouse were constructed. The Lakshmi Bai Cluster Federation has received Rs.5000 as a revolving fund from the Horticulture Department and similar assistance is expected for the Indira Gandhi cluster in the next quarter.

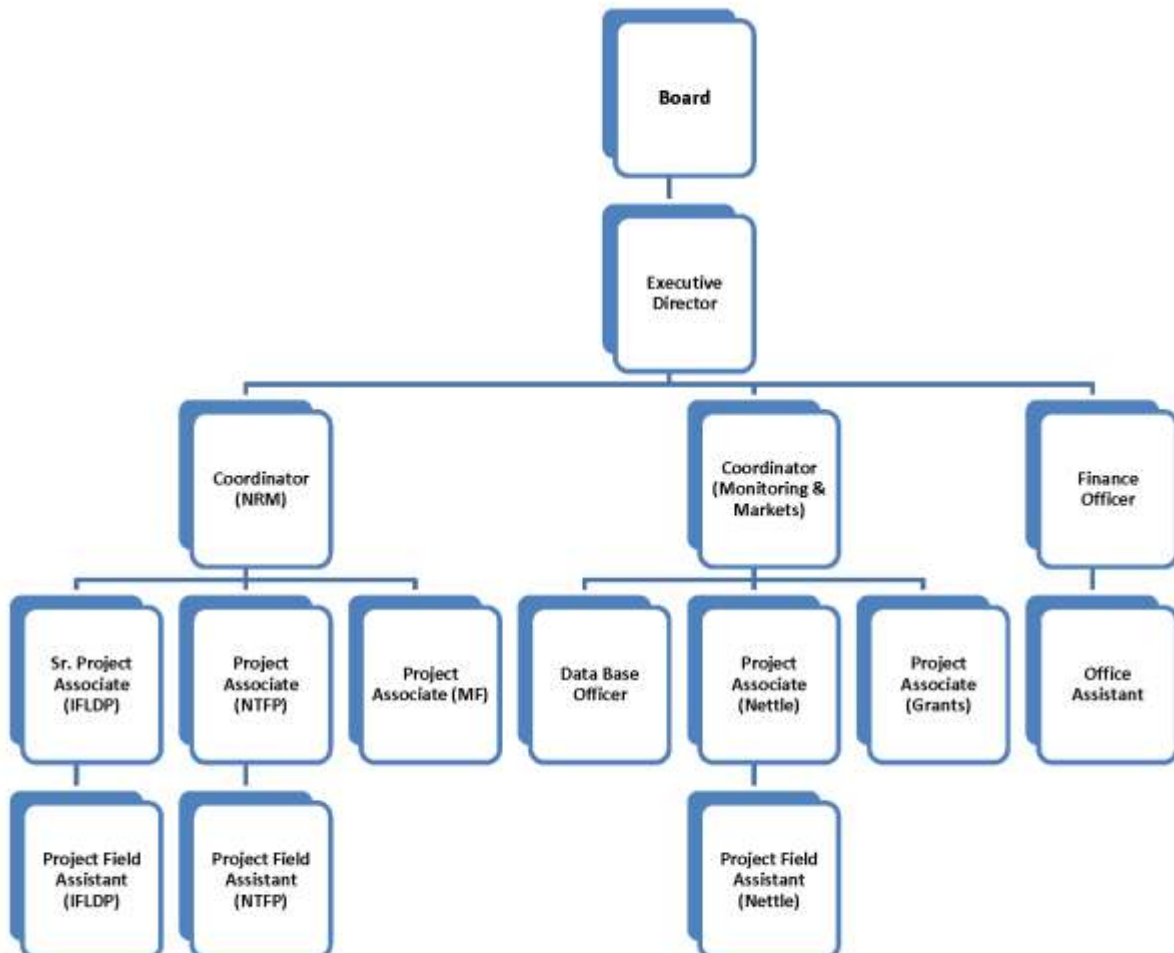


# Governance and Team

## The Board

The Board of the Himmotthan Society is chaired by Shri Rajiv Gupta, Forest and Rural Development Commissioner, Government of Uttarakhand. Dr. Rajesh Thadani is the Treasurer for the Society, while Dr. Malavika Chauhan is the Secretary to the Board and Executive Director of Himmotthan. Shri S.T.S. Lepcha, Conservator Forests and CEO of the

Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board is a member of the Board representing the Government of Uttarakhand. Dr. Ravi Chopra, Director of the People's Science Institute, a Dehradun based NGO which specializes in watershed development, and Prof. B. K. Joshi, ex- Vice-Chancellor, Kumaon University are also members of the Board.



# New Members of Team Himmotthan



## Darshan Singh Chauhan, *Field Assistant*

Darshan completed his post graduation from Garhwal University in Sociology in 2009-10. He has six years of field experience, working with the Alaknanda Ghati Shilpi Federation, Pipalkoti in different projects in Chamoli district. He carried out an extensive nettle resource survey for the Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board in 2007 in the remote Chamoli district. He joined the Himmotthan Society in January 2011 as a Project Field Assistant on the Himalayan Nettle project.



## Vivek Joshi, *Project Associate*

Vivek completed his masters in Botany from Kumoun University in 2005, following which he joined the Forest Research Institute of India as a researcher. In March 2006 he joined the Wildlife Institute of India as a JRF. In 2008 he enrolled as a PhD scholar at Kumaon University, Almora. He also worked with The Corbett Foundation at Bandhavgarh National Park. In October 2010 he joined Himmotthan Society as a Project Associate and is currently working on a project "Sustaining Rural Livelihoods through Cultivation and Conservation of NTFP's and MAP 's in Uttarakhand."



## Puja Sharma, *Project Associate*

Puja received her master's degree in Environmental Sciences in 2006 from the Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand. In 2007 she enrolled at IGNOU for a one year "Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development". In the same year she joined a renowned NGO, the "Shri Bhuvneshwari Mahila Ashram", at Tehri Garhwal, where she worked as an Environment Specialist under the Himmotthan Pariyojana programme, on a community based water and sanitation project supported by the Sir Ratan Tata Trust. In 2008 Puja joined the 'Environment Development Assistance Systems India', a Lucknow based consultancy organization where she was deputed as an Environmental Specialist cum Social Scientist and worked on monitoring and supervision of the same Himmotthan Pariyojana water and sanitation programme. She joined Himmotthan in 2010 as a Project Associate - Grant Management, while also assisting the water and sanitation program. She has always been keen to explore new places and is proficient in Yoga.



# Voluntary Disclosures

## Governance

- None of the Governing board members are related to each other or related to any of the senior salaried staff by blood or by marriage.
- None of the Governing Board members have received any salary, consultancy or other remunerations from Himmotthan. Travel costs, as per actual tickets submitted that were budgeted into projects, were however reimbursed.

The Governing Board has met on the following dates –

1. 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010
2. 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010

The Annual General Body Meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2010

## Travel

- Travel was incurred only as budgeted in project heads No travel costs were incurred for any other reason.

## Our Statutory Auditor

K.W. JAIN & Co., Chartered Accountants,  
Pritam Castle, Clock Tower, Dehra Dun 248 001, Uttarakhand, INDIA

## Our Bank

Indian Overseas Bank, Kanwli Branch, 305 Phase II, Vasant Vihar, Dehradun 248006, Uttarakhand

## Society Registration Details

The Himmotthan Society is a registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act of 1860.  
The Registration No. is 78/2007-2008 Dated 22/12/2007

Society PAN No.	AAATH6935K
Society TAN No.	MRTH00788E
Society FCRA No.	347900161

Details of Registration under the Sections 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961

- Section 12A granted since 25/09/2008; 40(117/Dehradun/2008-9/10768)
- Section 80G is granted since 8/10 /2008; S.No. 19(52) Dehradun/ 2007-08/ 11261

# Finance

## HIMMOTTHAN SOCIETY

(Registered u/s Society Act 1860)

65, Vasant Vihar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand Ph. 0135 2760728, Fax 0135 2761796

### Balance Sheet As on 31st March '2011

S. No.	Particulars	Schedule No.	As at 31st March '2011		As at 31st March '2010	
			Amount		Amount	
<b>A.</b>	<b>SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>					
I	FIXED ASSETS CAPITAL FUND	A	544,417		540,097	
II	GENERAL FUND	B	897,409		569,713	
III	GRANT FUND (UNUTILISED GRANTS)	C	14,985,133		10,167,256	
IV	CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS	D	73,150		84,399	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16,500,109</b>		<b>11,361,465</b>	
<b>B.</b>	<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>					
I	FIXED ASSETS (NET BLOCK)	E	544,417		540,097	
II	INVESTMENTS	F	12,875,739		4,197,793	
III	CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES	G	3,079,953		6,623,575	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16,500,109</b>		<b>11,361,465</b>	

Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts as per Schedule - O

*Ram co*  
Chairman

*S. P. Singh*  
Secretary/ Executive Director

*Rajesh Madan*  
Treasurer

*Ramraj*  
Finance and Admin. Officer

Certified in terms of our separate report of even date.  
For K.W Jain & Co.  
Chartered Accounted  
FRN No. 000247C



*Alok Jain*  
(Alok Kumar Jain)  
Proprietor  
Membership No. # 70088

Dated : 22.09.2011  
Place : Dehradun



HIMMOTTHAN  
65-Vasant Vihar-Phase II,  
Dehradun, Uttarakhand,  
India (248006)  
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E-mail: [info@himmotthan.in](mailto:info@himmotthan.in)  
Web site: <http://www.himmotthan.in>