

# Entry Fees for Environmental Services in Community Based Ecotourism: An Experience from Bishazaari Wetland of Nepal

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# Payment for Environmental Services

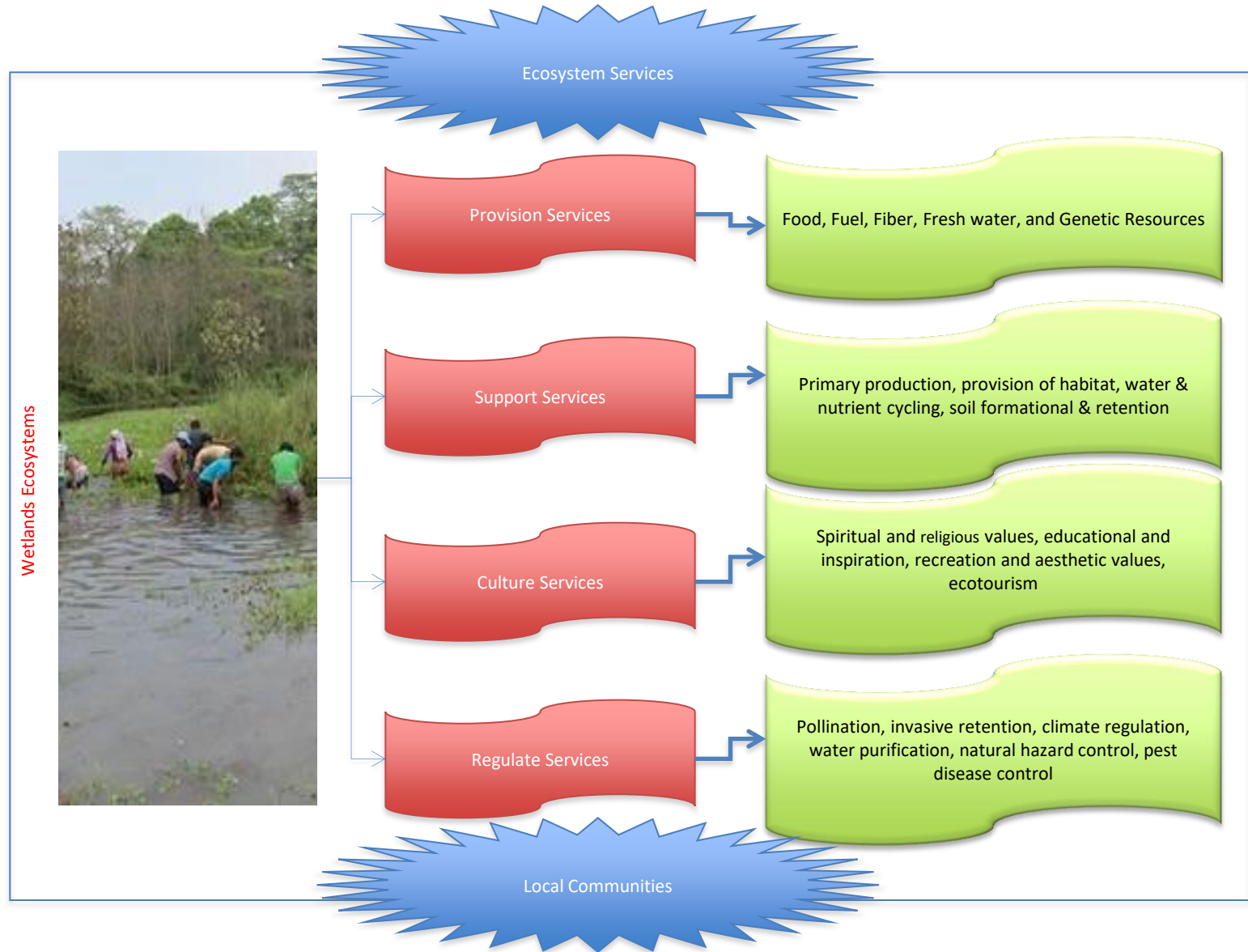
- **Definition:**

**Pay for Environmental Services (PES)** provides an opportunity to put a price on previously un-priced ecosystem services like climate regulation, water quality regulation and the provision of habitat for wildlife and, in doing so, brings them into the wider economy

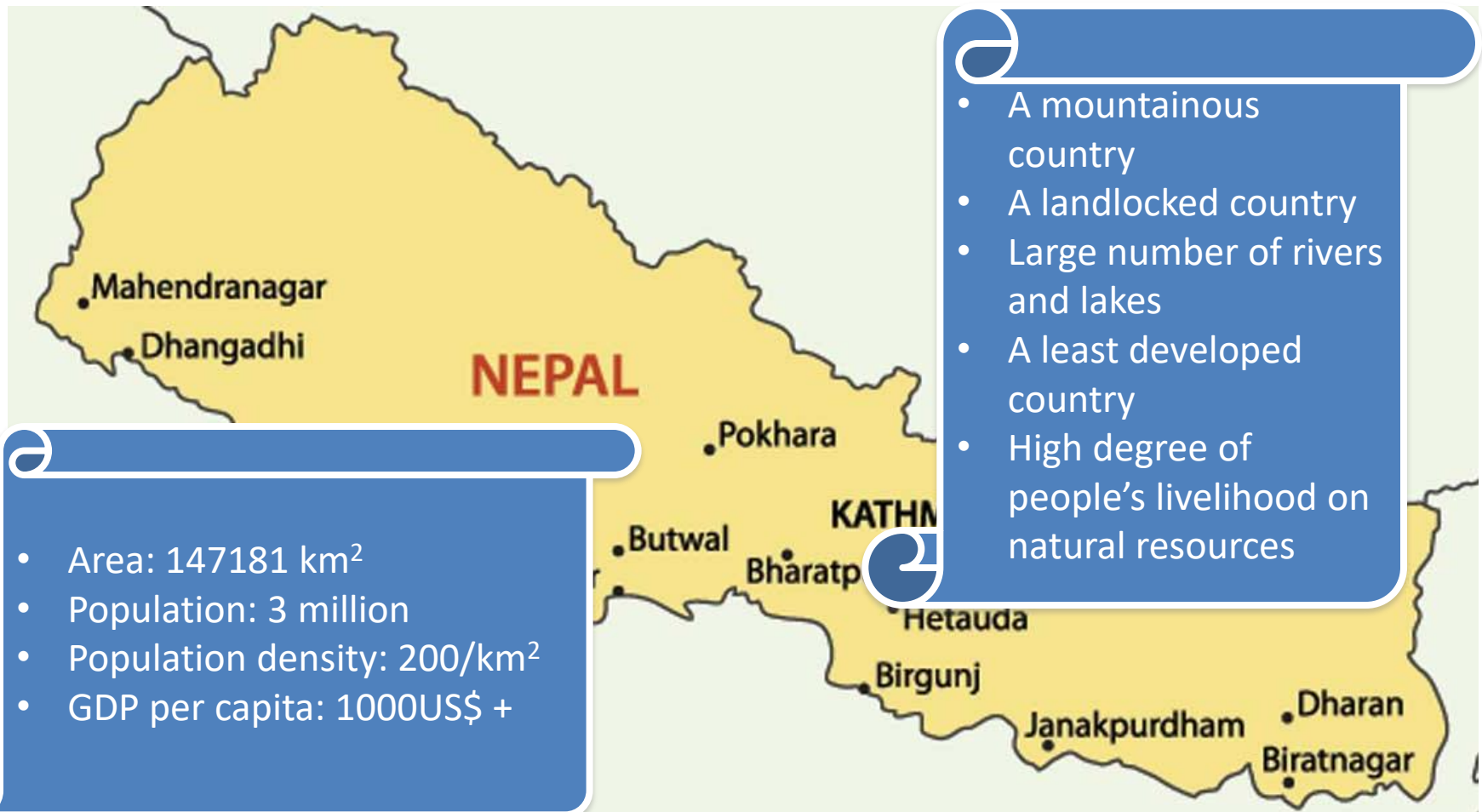
- **Principles:**

- Voluntary
- Beneficiary pays:
- Direct payment:
- Additionally:
- Conditionality:
- Ensuring permanence:
- Avoiding leakage:

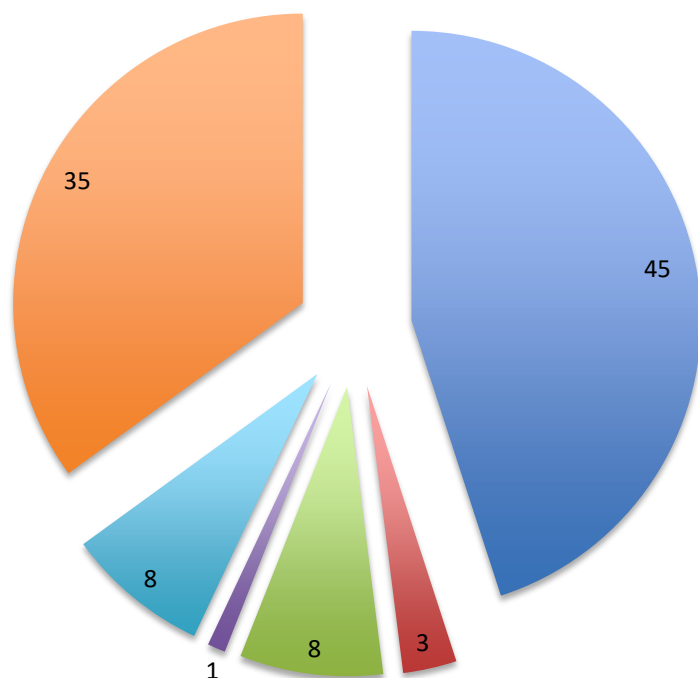
# Environmental Services and Wetlands



# An Introduction to Nepal



# Wetlands in Nepal



■ High Himal    ■ High Mountains    ■ Mid-Mountains  
■ Siwalik    ■ Terai    ■ Undetermined

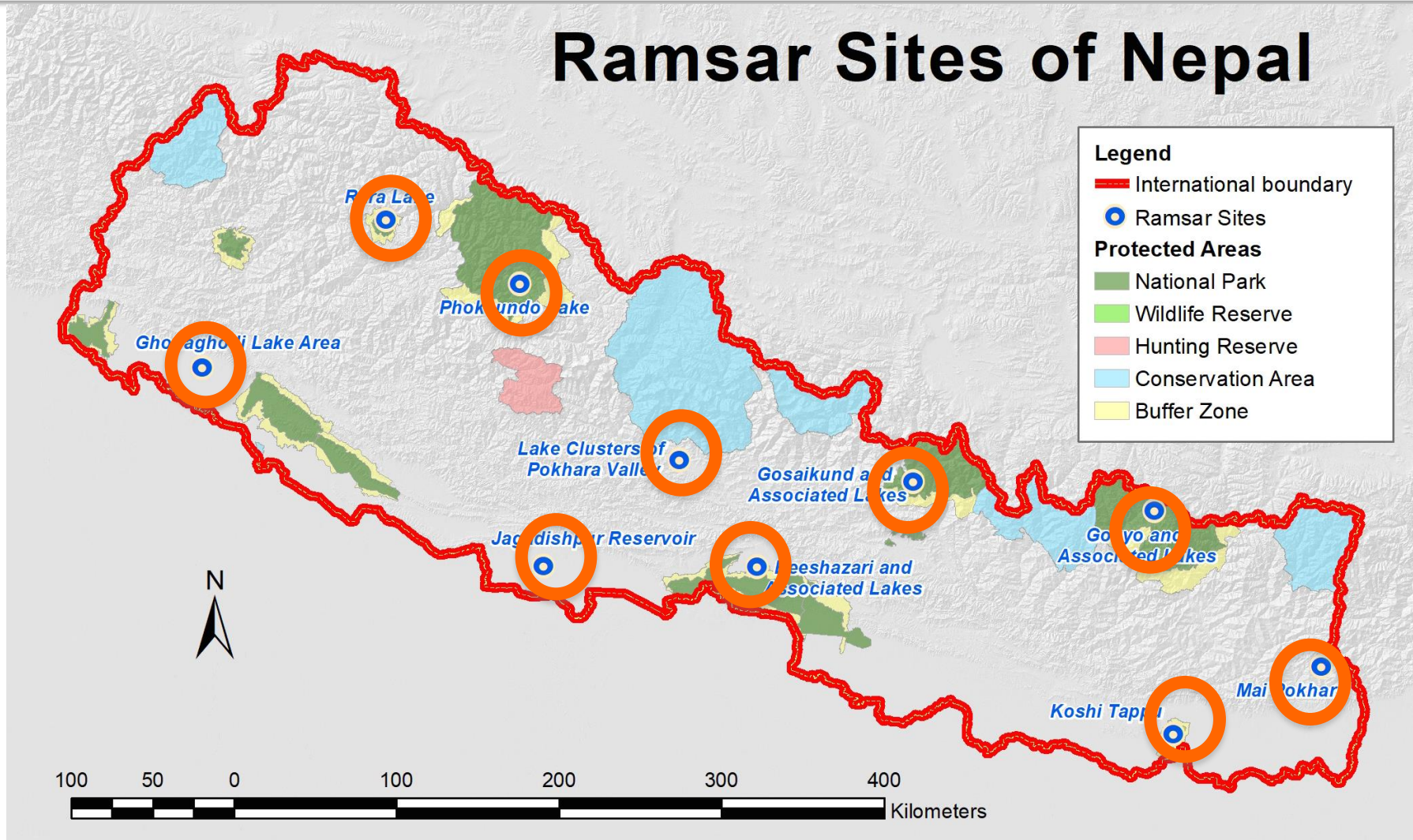
SN	Wetlands Types	Estimated Area (ha)	Coverage
1	Rivers	395,000	48.2
2	Lakes	5,000	0.6
3	Reservoirs	1,500	0.2
4	Ponds	7,277	0.9
5	Marginal Swamps	12,500	1.5
6	Irrigated Paddy Fields	2,000	48.6

4.5%

100.0

Source: NBSAP, 2014

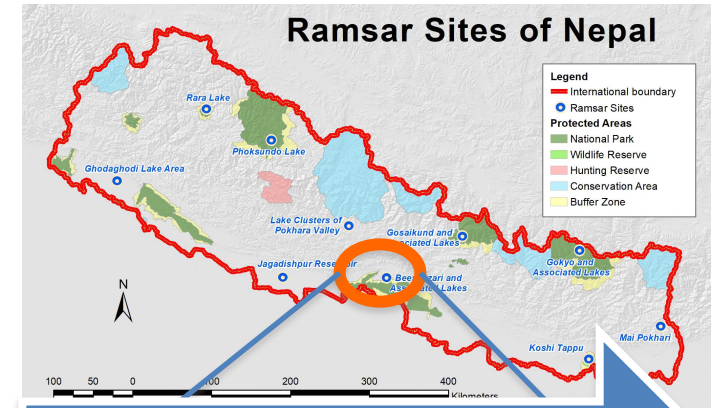
# Ramsar Wetlands in Nepal





# Bees Hazaar and Associate Lakes

- Name: Beeshazar and Associated Lakes
- Location: N27° 37' 53.85" and E084°28' 42.25"
- Ramsar Listed: 13 August 2003
- Area: 3200 ha
- Lake area: 100 ha
- Elevation Range: 170 to 286 m
- Climate: Subtropical monsoon
- Accessibility: Walk and Vehicle
- Type of Wetland: Permanent Freshwater Lake
- Catchment: Natural Spring and Rain water



Natural World Heritage Site  
(1984)

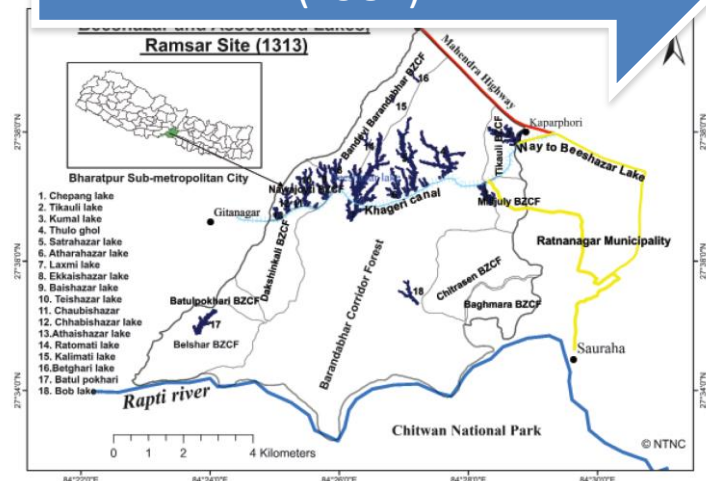


Fig. 2: Map Showing Beeshazar and Associated Lakes

# Biodiversity Richness

## Faunal Diversity

- Mammals: 33 species
- Fish: 22 species
- Herpetofauna: 30 species
- Insects: 37 Species
- **Birds: 273 species**
  - Wetland depended: 60 species
  - Globally threatened: 14 species
  - Nationally threatened: 23 species

## Floral Diversity

- Trees: 47 species
  - Shrub: 44 species
  - Grasses: 54 species
  - Invasive: 9 species
- Total plant: 154 species**

**Wetland threats:** Forest fire, Sedimentation, Grazing, Garbage





# Introduction of Payment for Environmental Services

- **Small Grant Project:** Strengthening community engagement and conservation initiative to improve the water quality and wetland ecosystems functions in Bees Hazaar Wetland of Chitwan, Nepal
- **Amount:** USD 186,280.45
- **Duration:** 2014-2015
- **Implementing Agency:** National Trust for Nature Conservation

# Payment for Environmental Services (PES) Sensitization Program together with conservation partners



# Conservation Education to Local Communities





# Training to Teacher and Nature Guide



Teachers



Nature Guides



# Training on micro-enterprises



Local materials, indigenous people and traditional knowledge



# Training to Government Officials



Ramsar Listed Site Managers

# Rules on do and doesn't

## Rules to follow within Beeshazar & associated lakes area



This area is a habitat of various wild animals. Safety from wildlife is visitor's responsibility .



Weapons and explosives are strictly prohibited.



Speed limit is 20 km/hr.



Do not blow horn and do not picnic.  
Do not fire.



Chasing, catching or killing of wildlife, destroying bird-nest, collection of wild animals or their parts & plants or their parts are strictly prohibited.



Poisoning and use of explosives in canal, stream Lakes and marshes are not allowed.

## Species diversity

- Mammals : 33 Species
- Birds : 273 Species
- Insects : 37 Species
- Herpetofauna: 30 Species
- Fish : 25 Species
- Plant Species : 154 Species



# Construction of Wildlife Watching Tower





# Rest Place



Protection from rain and sun of the visitors



# Water Quality Monitoring





# Bird Watching



# Rate of entry Fees

## Visitors

Nepali

NRs. 25

SAARC

NRs. 100

Foreigners

NRs. 200

## Vehicles

Motorbike

NRs. 25

Car

NRs. 300

Jeep

NRs. 500

Van

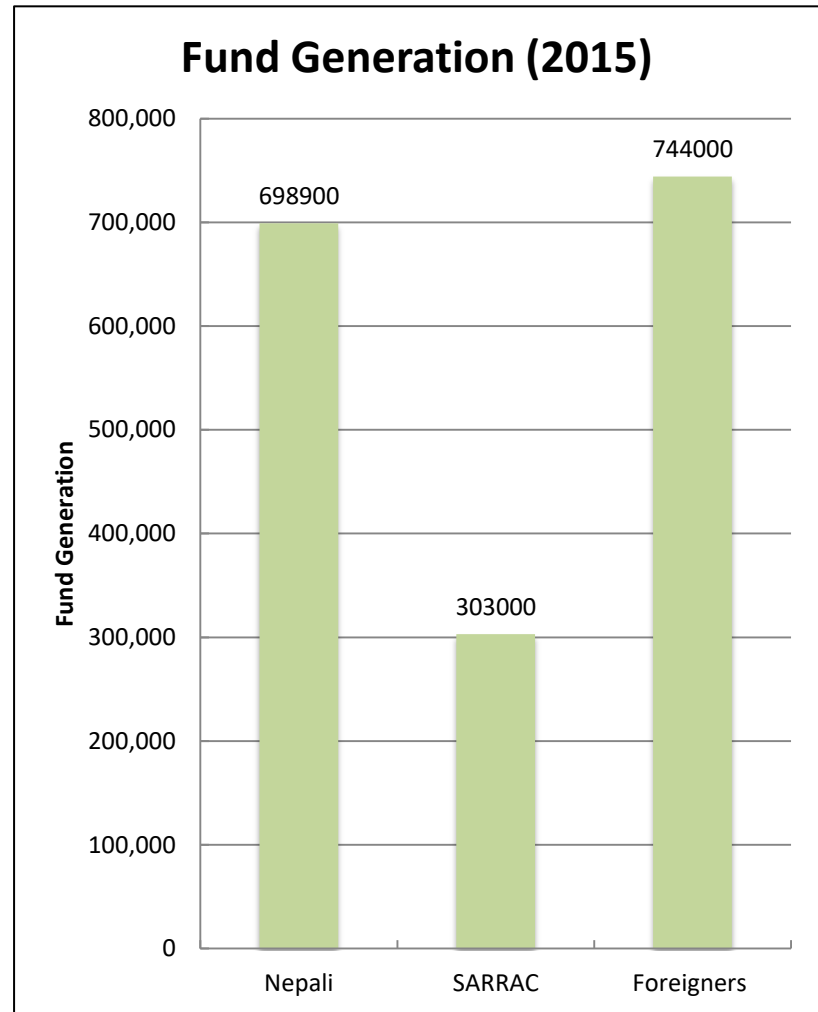
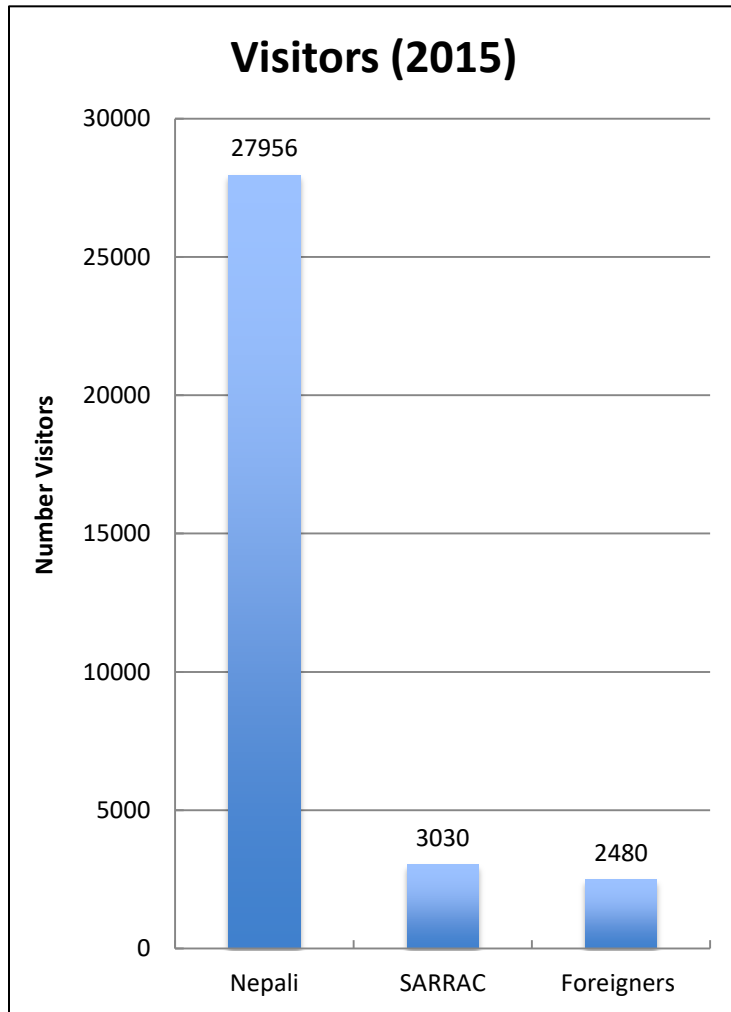
NRS. 700



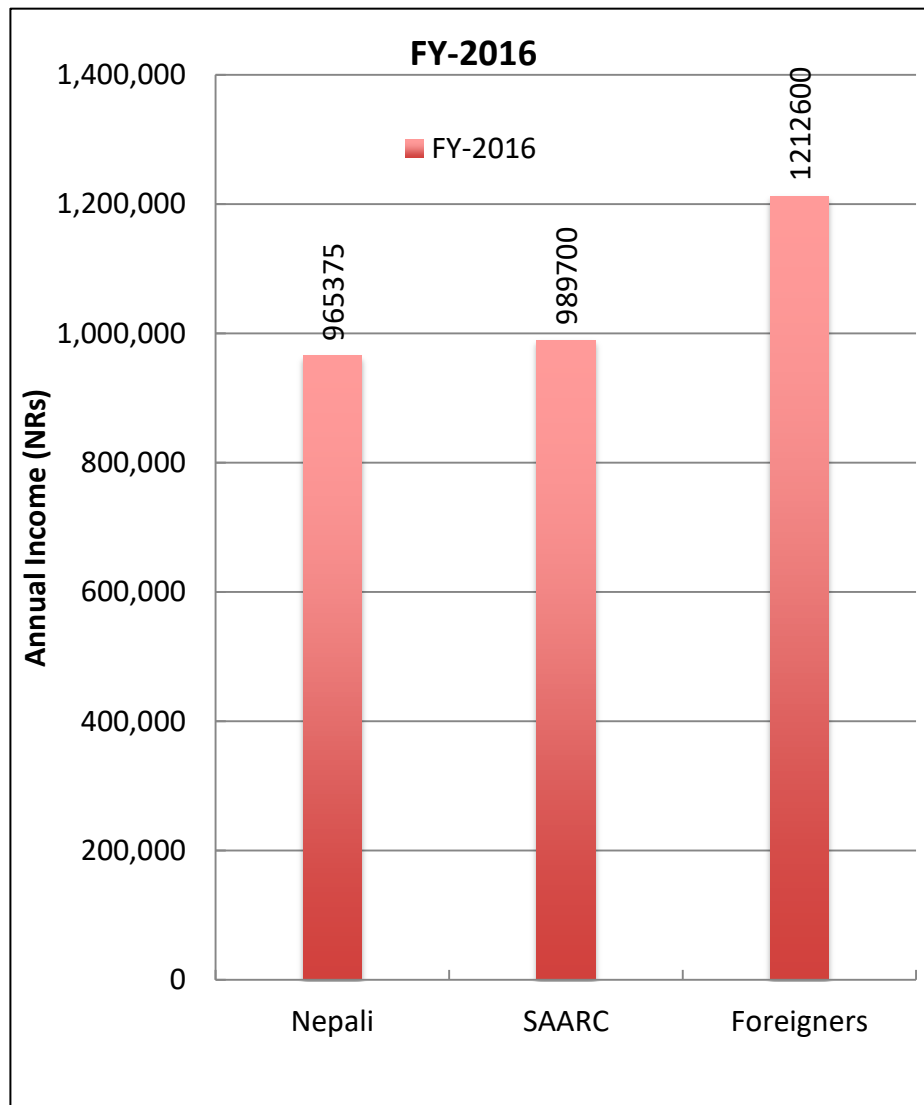
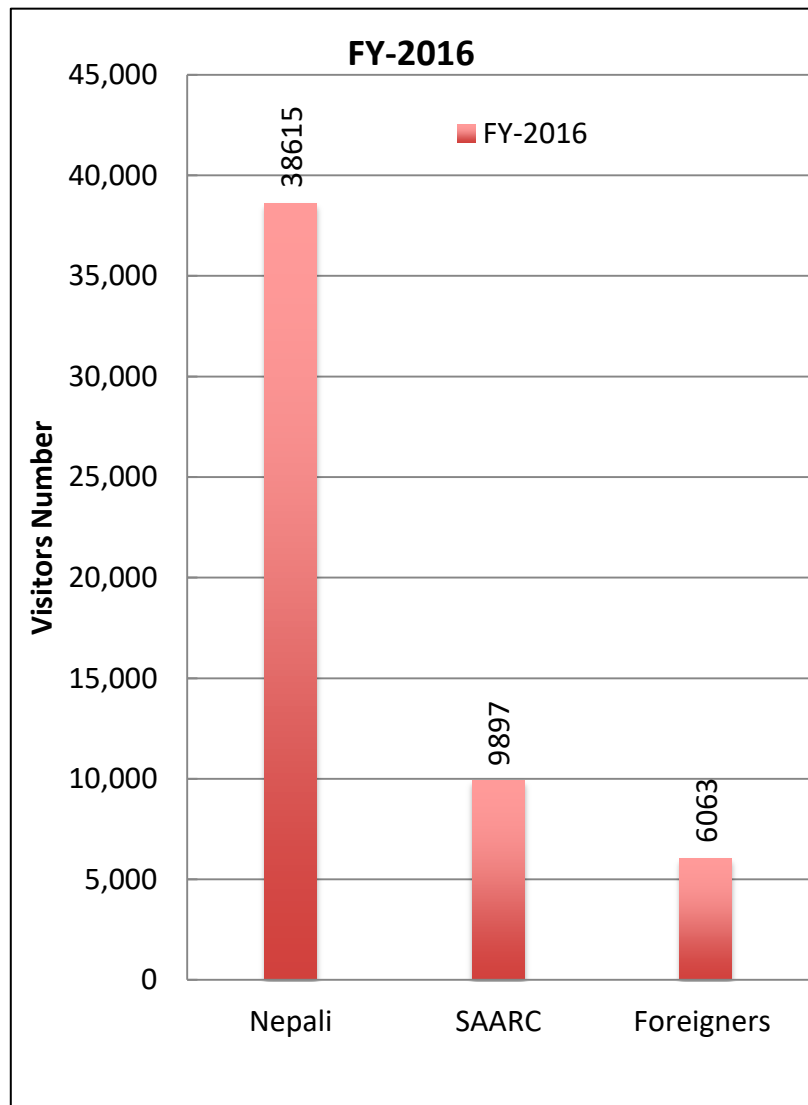
# Entrance and Ticket Counter



# Visitors and Fund Collection (2015)

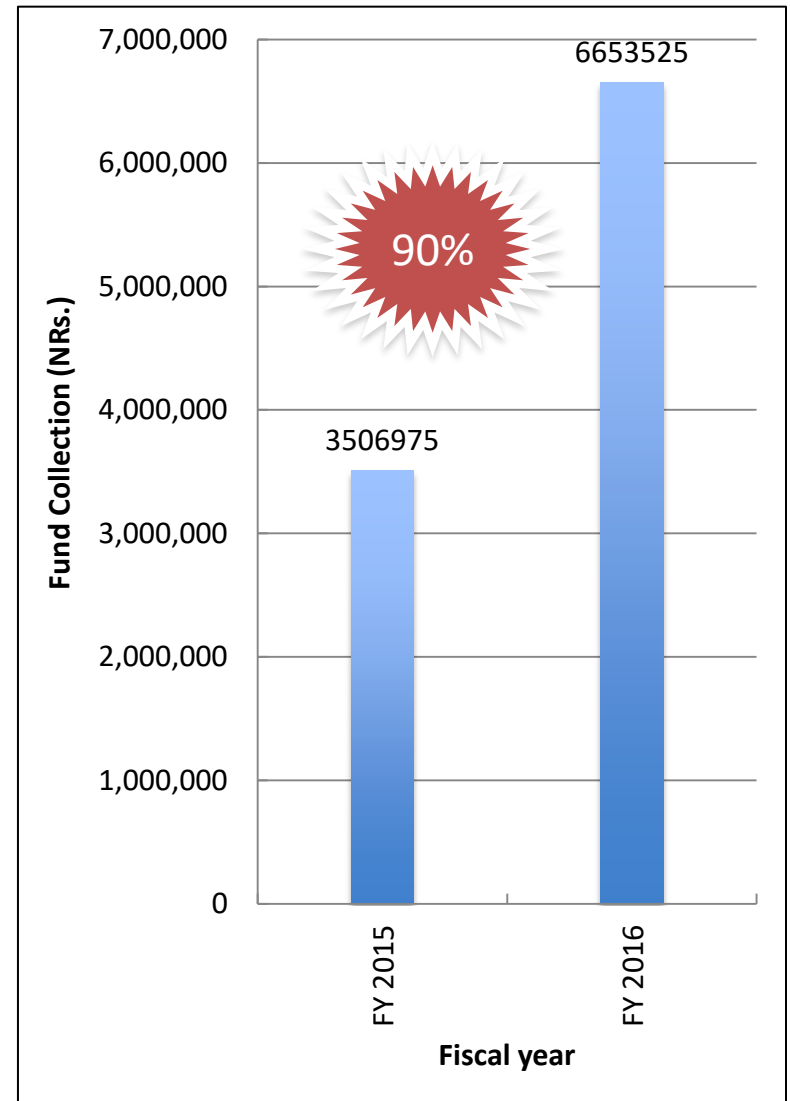
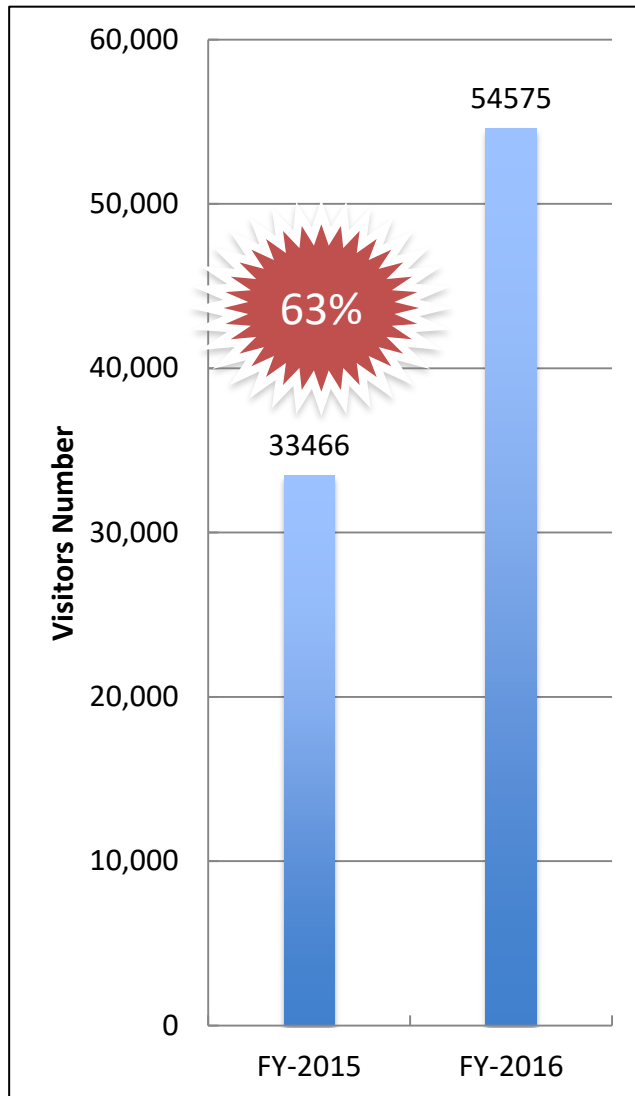


# Visitors and Fund Collection Increments

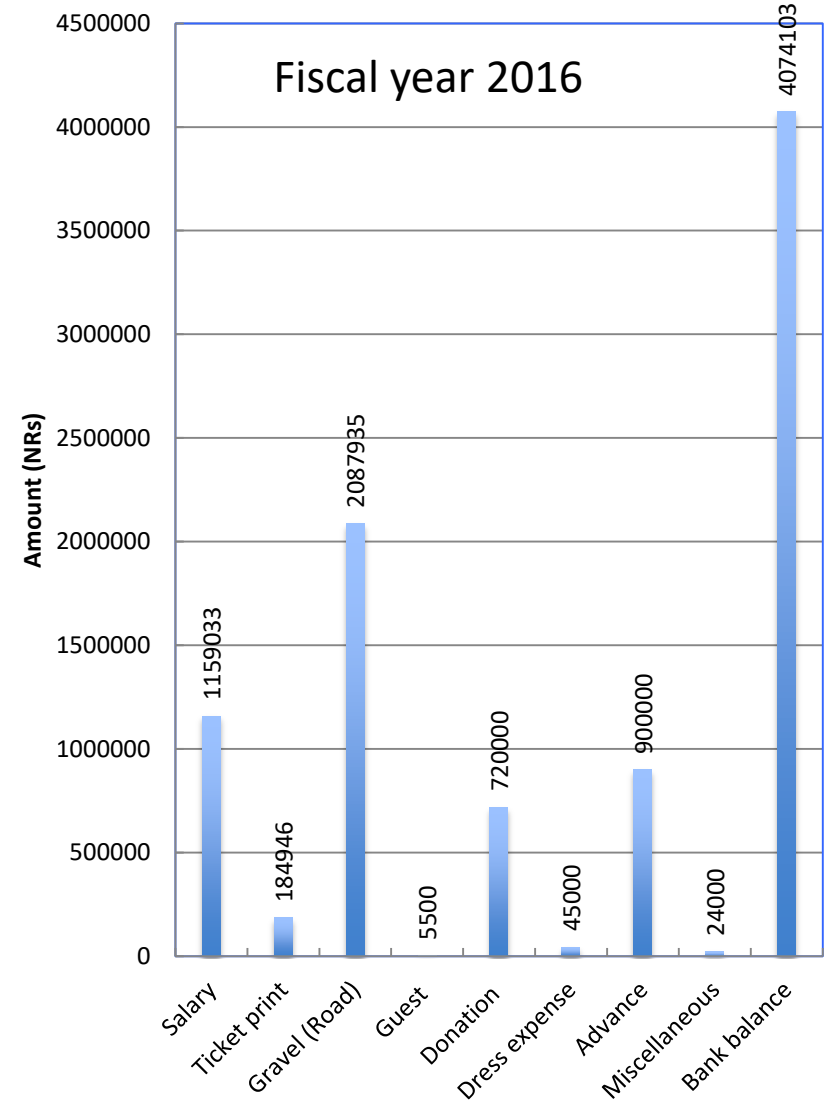
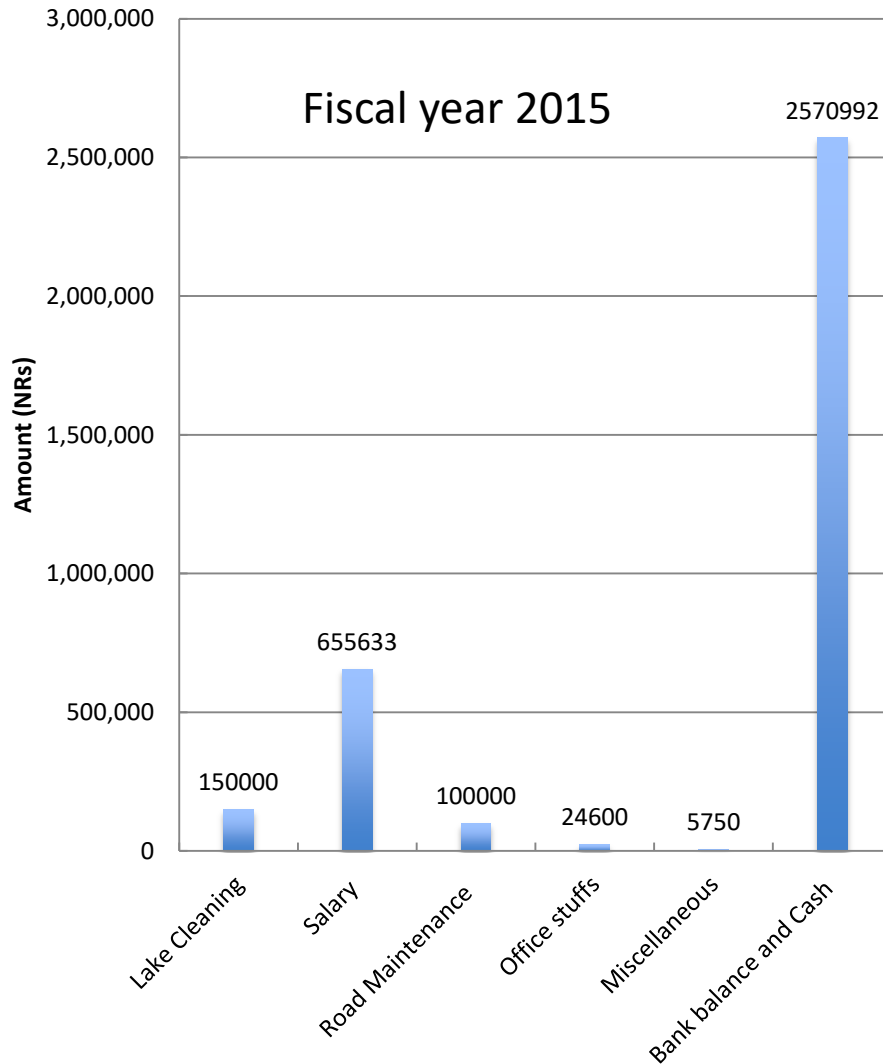




# Total Visitors and Fund Increment

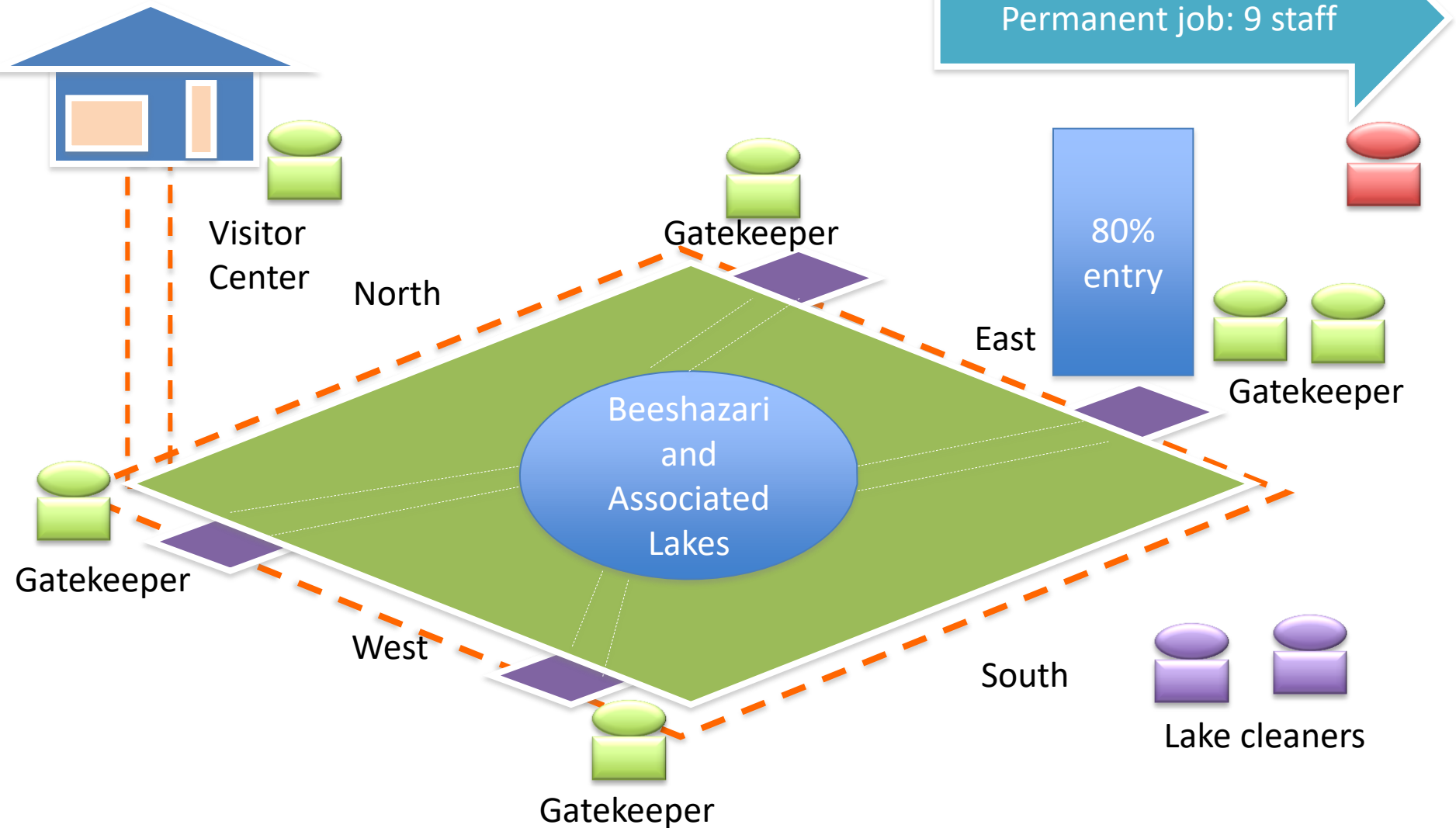


# Usage of collected fund

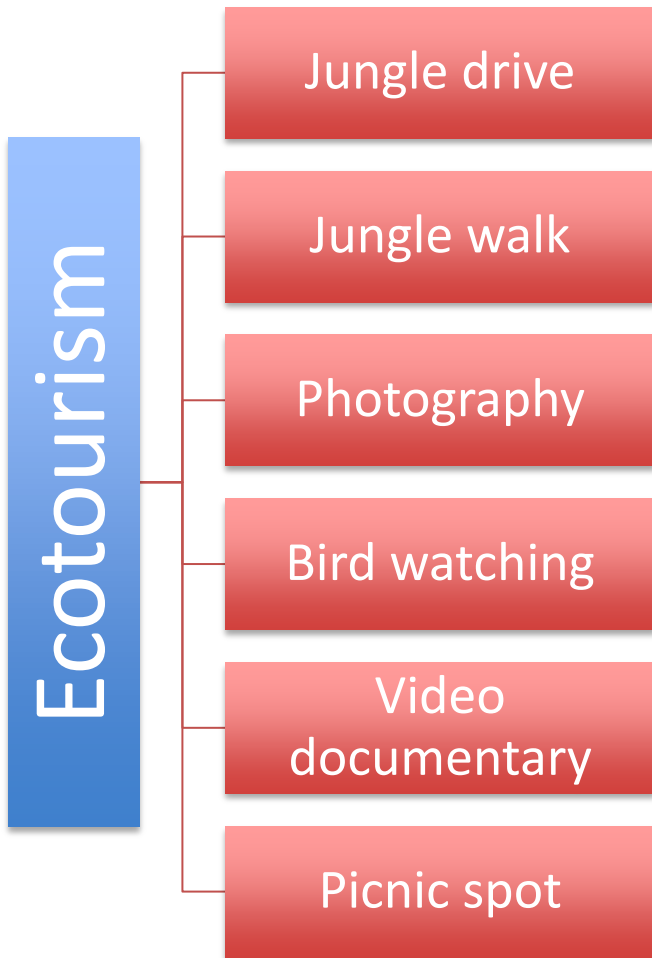


# Entrance Gate and Entry Fee Collection

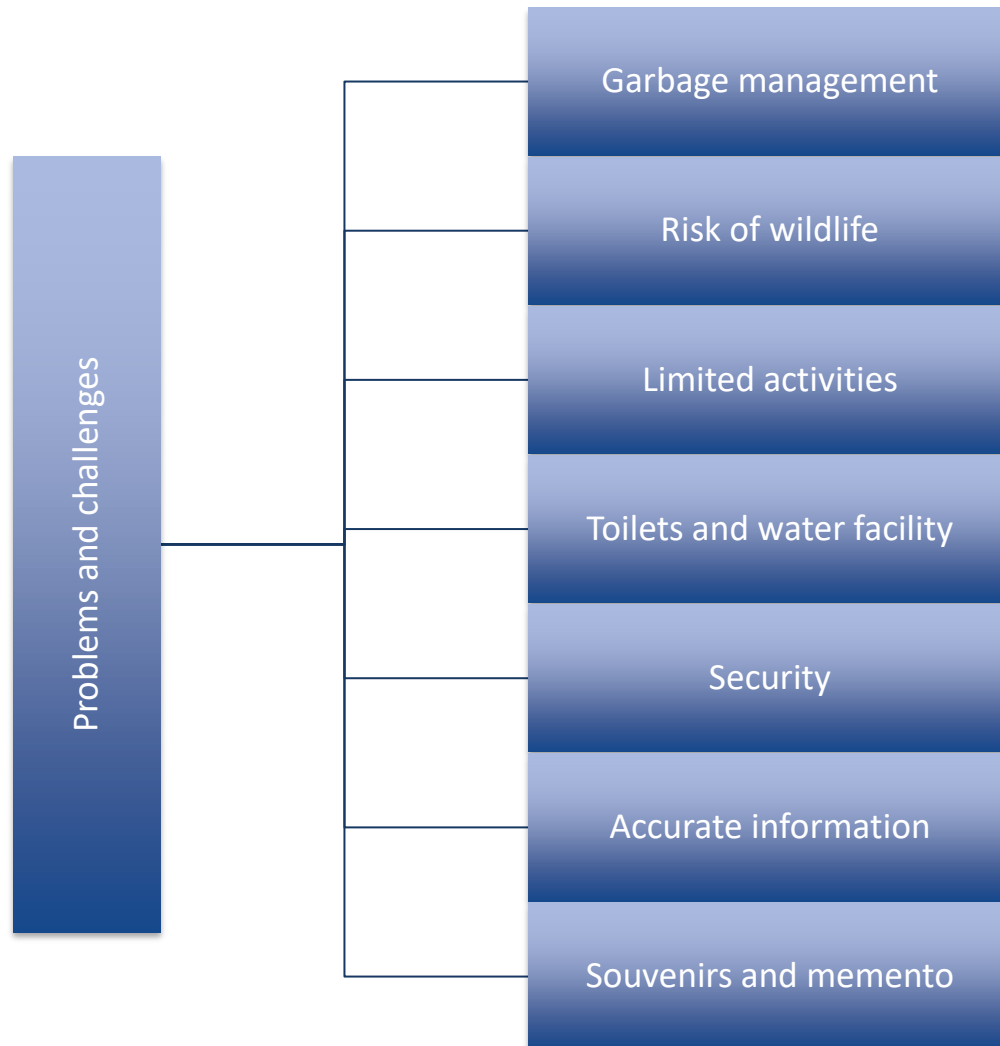
Permanent job: 9 staff



# Major Ecotourism Activities



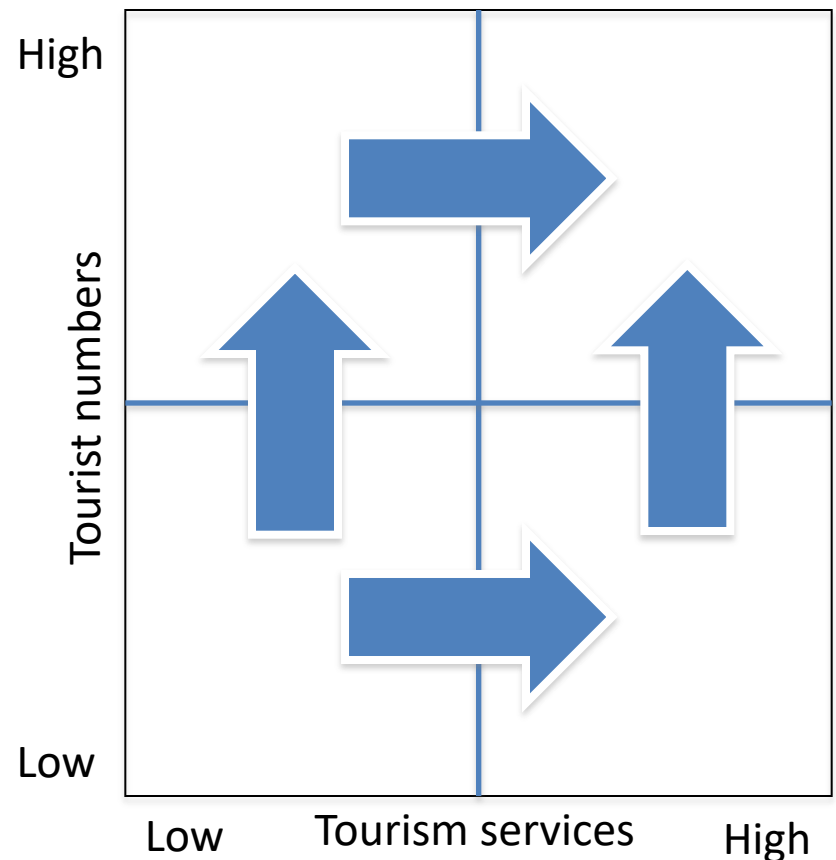
# Major Problems and Challenges





# Discussion

- Locally initiated and well adopted
- Tourists number and fund both are increasing
- Tourism activities are not enough, but encouraging for adventure tourism as well



# Ways Forward

- **Policy and planning**
  - Wetland policy should revise and PES should be integrated
  - Site Management Plan should renew with PES concept
- **Capacity building**
  - Awareness and education to local communities
  - Training on quality assurance among local stakeholders
  - Promotion of tourism infrastructure support
  - On the job training
- **Quality of ecotourism services**
  - Diversification of ecotourism activities
  - Maximum involvement of local people and young generation
- **Restoration and threat controls**
  - Regular cleaning of lakes
  - Research and monitoring
  - Forest fire control
- **Governance**
  - Financial aspects
  - Institutional reform

# Acknowledgement

- Ramsar Secretariat for providing small grant
- National trust for Nature Conservation for implementing the PES concept
- Local communities for adopting the PES concept



Thank You