



## LIVING LANDSCAPES - SECURING ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE AREAS IN BHUTAN

As of: September 2021

In southwestern Bhutan special biodiversity and ecosystem services worthy of protection exist (High Conservation Value Areas), which are, however, without any formal protection status. For their long-term protection at national, regional and local level, they should be considered as an integral part of comprehensive land use planning as well as in management plans of the District Forestry Offices. In addition to building up knowledge and capacities within the forest administrations, the project also provides them with technical equipment to monitor and implement the management plans. It also supports local communities in reducing human-wildlife-conflicts, securing water resources and developing business plans to generate additional income. The development of guidelines, pilot projects and the exchange of experience between districts and authorities are intended to enable multiplier effects in other landscapes and districts.

### State of implementation/results

- On October 29 and 30, the official opening ceremony of the project took place, which was also reported in an article in the national newspaper Kuensel: [kuenselonline.com/...](https://www.kuenselonline.com/)
- On March 12, 2021, a workshop was held with all partners to determine the work plan for the calendar year 2021. WWF Bhutan reported on this event on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/...](https://www.facebook.com/)).
- A first draft of a communication strategy was developed. It's finalization is expected by the end of 2021.
- Introductory training on High Conservation Values (HCV) for implementing partners was conducted.

## PROJECT DATA

### Country/Countries:

Bhutan

### Implementing organisation:

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) -  
Germany

### Political partner(s):

- Gross National Happiness Commission Secretariat (GNHCS) - Bhutan
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forests - Bhutan
- National Land Commission (NLC) - Bhutan

### Implementing partner(s):

- Tarayana Foundation (TF)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) - Bhutan

### BMU grant:

€ 8,873,998

### Duration:

04/2020 till 03/2028

