

**THE CAVES AND ODAARS**  
Kavre, Program  
**CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROPOSAL**

Prepared by:  
**NRCN ORGANIZATION**

Natural resource and culture conservation Nepal  
Kavre, Banepa-11  
Baneshwor Kathamandu  
Phone no: 01-4784614, 9841-329561  
Email : [nrcn.ngo@gmail.com](mailto:nrcn.ngo@gmail.com)  
URL: [www.nrcn.org.np](http://www.nrcn.org.np)

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## **REVIEW OF PLANS/POLICY LAWS, DIRECTIVES, GUIDELINES AND MANUALS FOR CONSERVATION**

The policy and legal requirement need to be carefully studied. The policies, laws, rules and regulations, qualitative and qualitative standard general guidelines and directives which will govern the undertaking conservation program.

- National Environmental Policy and action plan 1993 and 1998
- Nepal Bio-diversity implementation plan 2003.
- National conservation strategy 1988.
- Land acquisition Act 2034 B.S
- Conservation area management rule. 2052B.S
- Wild life reserve rule 2034 B.S
- Local self governance act 2055B.S

Nepal is signatory to a number of broader international conservation including those concerning habitat, Bio-diversity and cultural heritage protection which will be acknowledged during project implementation.



Orchid



Debasing Odaar



Pakhanbed



Chamere Gupha



Wild Goat

## **Salient - Features of Caves and Odaars:**

<u>S.N.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	Name of Cave District Location Scope Accessibility Topography Dimension
	Palanchwok ( Aanpghari) Kavre Aanpghari - 1200 m from sea level Tourism/ Biodiversity/ Religion & Culture 17 km East North from Banepa Fragile & Rock part 15m X 15m X 10 m
2.	Name of Cave District Location Scope Accessibility Topography Dimension
	Chhanga Kavre Timal - 2000m from sea level Bio-diversity, watershed, Tourism, Religion and Culture 30 km East from Banepa Rocky & Fragile mountain 10m X 10m X 5m
3.	Name of Cave District Location Scope Accessibility Topography Dimension
	Rani Odaar Hulak- 1500m from sea level Bio-diversity, Watershed area, Tourism 35 km from Banepa Rocks & Fragile mountain 10 m X 10m X 10m

- |    |               |                                        |
|----|---------------|----------------------------------------|
| 4. | Name of Cave  | Chamere Gupha                          |
|    | District      | Kavre                                  |
|    | Location      | Phedi, O kilo - 1300m from sea level   |
|    | Scope         | Bio-diversity                          |
|    | Accessibility | 20 km from Banepa                      |
|    | Topography    | Steep hiil, rocky & fragile mountain   |
|    | Dimension     | 15m X 15m X 5m                         |
|    |               |                                        |
| 5. | Name of Cave  | Chamere Gupha                          |
|    | District      | Kavre                                  |
|    | Location      | Dhunkharka - 2500 m from sea level     |
|    | Scope         | Bio-diversity, Tourism, watershed area |
|    | Accessibility | 20 km from Panauti                     |
|    | Topography    | Fragile, rock mountain                 |
|    | Dimension     | 15m X 15m X 10m                        |



Rani Odaar

## **PROGRAMME AREA DELINEATION**

The study and conservation area of the programmer will be considered as caves and odaar located in different places of district. Some of their names and location are listed below.

- Gupteshwori - Phulchwoki site
- Ladkeshwori - ladku
- Chhanga - Timal
- Raniodaar - Hulak
- Chamere Gupha - Phedi
- Chamere Gupha- Kusheswor
- Chamere Gupha - Dhunkharka

About 15 numbers of caves and odaar are indentified in different part of district, among which some are important from the point of view of culture and religion and some are from bio- diversity.

- The socio- economic, culture and natural survey will be carried out to state of it condition using specific method in term of:

**Land use survey** including formal and informal tenure system, ownership and use right, and management of common property resource.

**Community's studies** describing social structure and social relation in programme affected area and groups such as the poor, women, ethnic minorities/tribes and other vulnerable groups.

**Institutional Analysis** of formal and informal community organization for the resource management conflict resolution, and maintained of social norms and of local government intuition or other local organization for resource management.

**Rapid Assessment** of Project impacts to determine the extent and types of the positive and negative impacts likely to have in the programme affected area.



## **REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAMME**

### **Time:-**

The program period will be at least 5 years. The work schedule is given below.

1. Preparation of field study
2. Field survey/Field work
3. Public notification and widely publicity.
4. Construction and management of physical aspect
5. Conservation mechanism adaptation
6. Development program
7. Environmental friendly activities and culturally rich program organization
8. Monitoring and report writing.

### **Estimated Budget**

### **Specialist or Experts required**

It requires various personnel for the specific tasks, which will consist of the following inter-disciplinary specialist.

- Team leader/ EIA experts.
- Biologist
- Naturalist
- Environmental Engineering
- Geologist
- Data analyst
- Culture and religion experts.

## **KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES/ IMPACTS RELATED TO THE PROGRAMME**

The following sections provide a physical, biological and socio-economic, environmental impacts and issues and enhancement aspects of the program

### **Physical Environmental Issues**

1. Land use including agriculture, forest, shrub, grazing, and settlements, road, camp, monuments construction and forestation.
2. Pollution due to wastes, noise, chemicals etc.
3. Impact on geology, topography, morphology of cave and odoor.

### **Biological Environmental Issues**

1. Locally rare and endangered or protected plants or flora, wildlife or fauna and their habitat, shelter and breed places
2. Forest part and illegal hunting and poaching of wild lives.
3. Vegetation, forest, forest products and aquatic flora and fauna.

### **Socio-economic and cultural issues**

1. Land and property of local people
2. Issues related to social structures, cultural and traditional practices of rural people.
3. Health and sanitation condition of the area
4. Law and order, awareness, hazards and participatory approaches of public.
5. Motivation and conscience for conservation of religious practices and sites archeological and historical sites

## **ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES**

Government should formulate different policies in sector of local trade, tourism and culture conservation. Nepal is well endowed with various natural and cultural resources which deserve comparative advantages for development. Nepal is rich in terms of the land with wide topography, climatic and altitudinal variations dense and protected forest with rich bio-diversity ancient civilization with diverse but rich cultural heritage. This creates the unrivaled natural scenic beauty in the country. Resource conservation and its sustainable use reduce unemployment, increase per capital GDP and promote economic growth. Cave conservation may be the source of income generating to the local via the conservation of culture religious site and bio-diversity.



Chamere Gupha

## **EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Baseline information is necessary for the environmental assessment. The baseline information related to physical, biological and socio-economic and cultural environment are briefly described here.

### **Physical Environment:-**

Since Kavre district extended middle mountain to Mahabharat belt, alpine and subtropical types of climate prevail. The minimum extreme temperature is about  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  during winter and maximum temperature is about  $32^{\circ}\text{C}$  during summer. The relative humidity is 90% during wet season and low as 30% during dry season.

The topography of area is characterized by gentle and steep slope extends upto the elevation of 2900 m above the mean sea level called Narayanthan and Phulchoki danda. The catchment area of caves and odaar are characterized by steep to medium sloped landscape linked by forest, agricultural land, settlement, grazing land and water bodies.

### **Biological Environment:-**

Vegetation types found in the cave area are sal, broad leaved conifer species. Wildlife in the area depends upon habitat type, topographic factors, and human influences,

sal- *Sorea rubusta*

Chilaune- *Schima wallichii*

Bamboo- *Bombax ceiba*

Aru- *Prunus persica*

Simal - *Dendrocalamus sp.*

Uttis - *Alnus nepalensis*

Paiyu - *Cerasoides*

Mauwa - *Madhuma indica*

- Medicinal herbes

- Chituwa - *Panthera pardus* - Bird species
- Syal - *Canis aureus* - Insects species

Bandar - *Macaca mullata*

Dumsi - *Hystrix hodgsoni*

Phyauro - *Vulpes vulpes*

Tiger-

Bat-

Snake-

Bee-

Banbiralo-

Lizard species-

Butterflies-

The local communities within the cave area have strong conviction of religion. The majority of the local communities follow Hindu religion in the surrounding. The ethnic group existing in the site of cave is Bramin, Chhetri, Newar, Dalit, Danuwar etc.



White Monkey

## **OBJECTIVES:-**

The purpose of cave conservation is to nature and culture conversation. The specific objectives of this programme with regards to the guidance are

- Delineation of specific activities to identify the major physical, biological and socio-economic and cultural baseline conditions.
- To prepare an environmental monitoring plan
- To enumerate the species diversity, study the vegetation types, and to access the local uses of resources.
- To stabilize the unstable slopes, control soil erosion and landslides in the area
- To increase potential for employment of local people, local trade, tourism development and research centre.



Rani Odaar

## **BACKGROUND**

Cave and odaar are natural habitat of wild life and aesthetic centre of spiritual heart. Numerous caves and odaars have been identified but remain undeveloped. Of this potential about 15 caves and odaars can be assessed economically and ecologically remain virtually untapped in the district. Natural resource provides goods and service to meet human needs and wants in terms of tangible and intangible resources. Earth is the common home of all creatures but man becoming the most destructive factor for the other living creature's habitat and shelter. People visiting to the caves and odaar provides ridiculously amazing scene. It may be trekking destination to the tourist. The charming natural setting combined with its rich cultural heritage give visitors a whole some holiday.



Odaar

## **CONCLUSION:-**

New Nepal now needs to take stock of one of her most important resource cave. Cave is now perceived as one of the main diverse of natural and cultural resources. Better living standard & means better life style and better recreation with nature and culture.

It is heartening to note that some in Nepal have realized the value of Nepal's caves and oddar. We should concede that caves and odaars have monetary values for mankind and wild life.

The detail geological, biological and social investigation is required to carry out for conservation, protection and development of cave and odaar because cave is a resource having both aesthetic and economic value. More precisely it is better to say cave and odaar is the habitat of living world, shrines of spirit and legendry of historic incidents that is to be conserved, protected with active participation.



**Chamere Gupha**