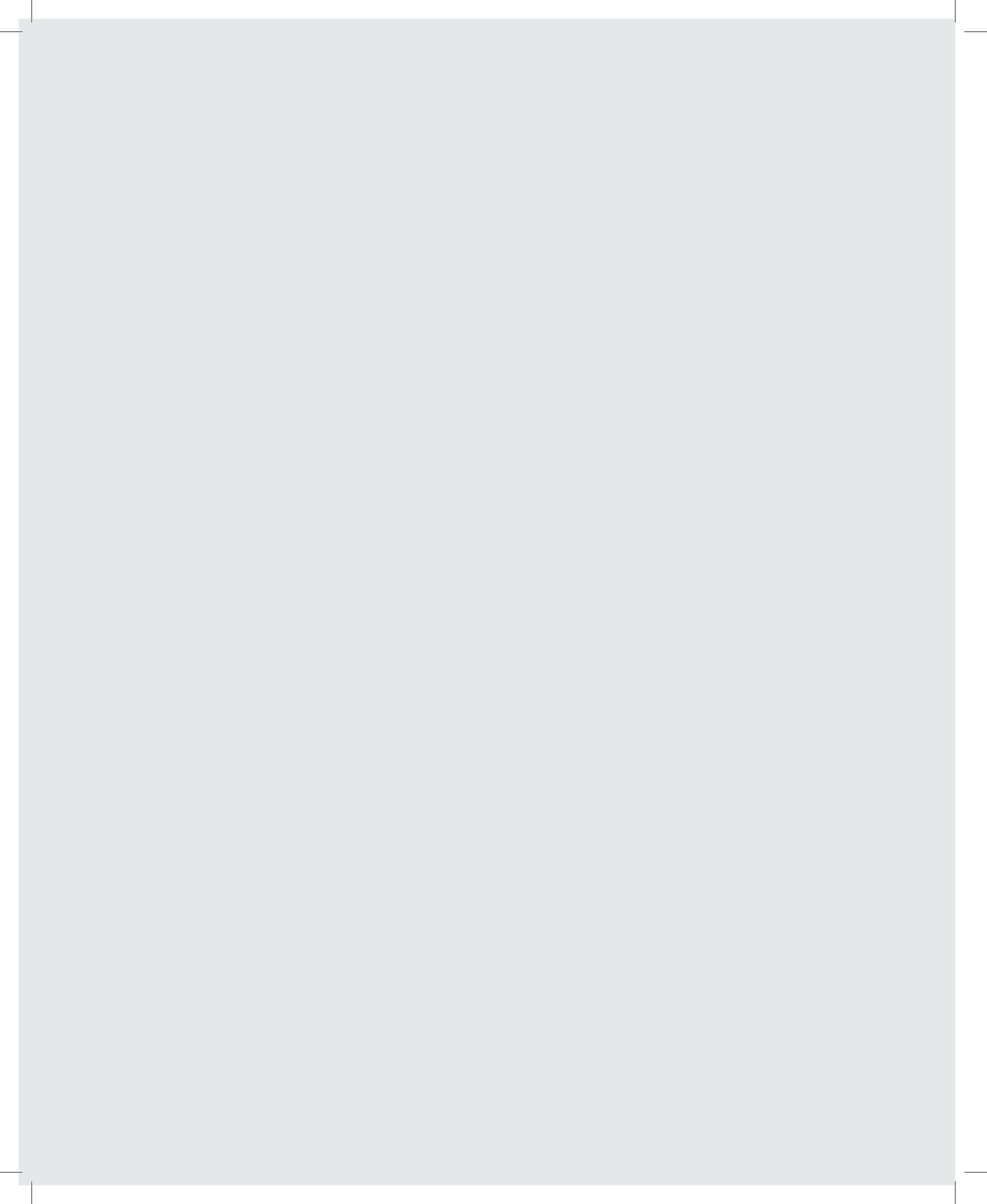


# NEPAL RED PANDA GOVERNANCE STANDARD

## 2023-2026 (PILOT VERSION 1.0)





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## 2023-2026 (PILOT VERSION 1.0)



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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This voluntary standard is based on participatory research with forestry sector parties in Red Panda habitat area to develop methodologies for assessing the governance quality of the Red Panda sector programs, projects, and activities in Nepal. The research was conducted during Jan 2020 –Dec 2022. The Standard has been developed in collaboration between Griffith University, University of Southern Queensland (UniSQ), Kathmandu Forestry College, Red Panda Network, and Nepalese stakeholders, including the government, CFUGs, and civil society organizations.

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The standard is a document that has evolved via constant consultation, collaboration, and modification for improvement. It has been prepared with the assistance of standards development specialists, forestry experts, and local research assistants, using best practices in standard creation. The materials are based on an initial online (171) and telephone (184) survey conducted in 2020 with completed responses of 355 respondent stakeholders, consultation of Red Panda Action Plan (2019-2023) (10,20) and CFUGs operational plan in the Red Panda areas. This generated a total of 407 means of verification (MoVs) over 4 themes, "Forest governance generally", "Natural habitat protection", "Red Panda conservation programs" and "RPN" for different levels (International, National, Provincial, District, and Local) (Table 1). The first survey was conducted online for groups with access to the internet using survey monkey (surveymonkey.com). Attempts were made to include as many respondents as possible. Purposive sampling was done to cover the concerned national and international stakeholders related to Red Panda by sending emails to those who have access to the internet. Also, mass sharing of this survey information was done through the advertisement and sharing links on the websites of RPN and KAFCOL.<sup>1</sup>

Snowball sampling was conducted to reach those who do not have (20) access to resources mainly in the case of marginalized stakeholders. The second survey was conducted through a telephone interview with stakeholders without access to the internet. The set of questions was asked based on the Cadman framework of principles, criteria, and indicators (Cadman 2011).<sup>2</sup> The participants were individually asked about their perception of FG in general, governance in Red Panda conservation, and governance of natural habitat protection. The participants were asked to rate all the 11 governance indicators based on their perspectives using the 5-point scale (1-5; 1 for very low to 5 for very high). Along with the quantitative analysis/rating, participants were further requested to provide comments based on their rating of each indicator. The survey respondents' comments were used to make verifiers and MoVs.

Cadman (2009)<sup>3</sup> generic quality of governance paradigm was used to create the standard. It can be used for the evaluation of the quality of governance of Red Panda area forest management and associated programmes and project activities. Its purpose is to examine the level of participation of important stakeholders in discussions on implementation and benefit sharing plan, and other economic, social, and environmental elements of

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<sup>1</sup> Many people assisted in this standard. Gratitude is extended particularly to Dr. Tim Cadman, Tek Maraseni, Ambika Gautam for their guidance; Ang Sherpa, Sonam Lama, Pema Sherpa and Janam Shrestha for whole management; Upama Kaju, Anita Shrestha and Sikha Karki for survey, field consultation and Pilot standard preparation; and Dhana Bahadur Khamdak, Krishna Bantawa, Dinesh Ghale, Tek Rawat, Bikas Bhandari, Forest Guardians and CFUGs for field consultation and support.

<sup>2</sup> Cadman T. 2011. Quality and legitimacy of global governance: case lessons from forestry. London (UK): Palgrave Macmillan.

<sup>3</sup> Cadman, T. 2009, Quality, legitimacy and global governance: A comparative analysis of four forest institutions, PhD.

the Red Panda habitat area community forest management. The standard is voluntary, and it can be used informally for general evaluation or more rigorously to determine compliance. It elaborates context-specific methodologies for monitoring and evaluating the quality of forest management governance, as well as programs and projects related to the Red Panda and their habitat conservation.

The verifiers and MoVs development is based on the Cadman framework, which is a hierarchical framework for evaluating governance that is based on two principles, four criteria, and eleven indicators (Cadman, 2009, 2011) (Table 1). The principle of 'meaningful participation' is divided into interest representation (inclusiveness, equality, and resources) and organizational responsibility (accountability and transparency). The procedural principle of 'productive deliberation' is explained through decision-making and implementation. Decision-making is associated with three different indicators: democracy, agreement, and dispute settlement, whereas implementation which means putting commitments into practice is linked to behaviour change, problem-solving, and durability. The governance quality is eventually measured at the indicator level (Cadman, 2011).

This standard contains further levels to enable evaluation of governance quality:

The materials created to elaborate the verifiers (20) were shared and corrected during the Stakeholder Forum Workshop held in Kathmandu on August 8-9, 2022, and taken to 8 CFUGs in Eastern (4) and Western Nepal (4) during field consultations in September and November 2022. These consultations resulted in the creation of the means of verification, practices, and verification methods associated with each indicator.

The standard is modular. This version of the standard contains the principles, criteria, indicators, and verifiers for evaluation, but focuses on the means of verification, practices, and verification methods for activities in Red Panda habitat areas.

A **verifier** is the source of information for the indicator, or for the reference value of the indicator.

**Means of verification** are sources of information for the determination of performance.

**Practices** refer to the desired ideas, beliefs, and methods the standard is seeking to evaluate.

**Verification methods** refer to the method by which a practice may be verified for compliance with the standard.

## 2. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

On the basis of the national and local level consultations as well as the expert review described above, the standard was revised, and released for public comment via newspapers (English and Nepali), online media, social networking sites, and on the RPN and KAFCOL websites. The consultation period was 60 days (November 25, 2022 to January 25, 2023), and comments were invited before and during the completion of the deadline.

The standard was released as a 'pilot' standard on March 30, 2023, after the comments from stakeholders were incorporated, valid for three years. This document was subsequently reviewed and revised, with stakeholder input. Ownership transformation of the standard to the people of Nepal will occur on completion of the pilot. The standard is a living document, subject to continual improvement. It is hoped continual improvement will occur in the future, subject to available resources. Endorsement,

**Table 1: Best practice normative framework of principles, criteria, and indicators (PC&I) for evaluating governance quality (Cadman, 2011)**

PRINCIPLE	CRITERION	INDICATOR
"Meaningful participation"	Interest representation	Inclusiveness Equality Resources
	Organisational responsibility	Accountability Transparency
"Productive deliberation"	Decision making	Democracy Agreement Dispute settlement
	Implementation	Behavioural change Problem solving Durability

suggested corrections, and comments may be sent at any time to t.cadman@griffith.edu.au, and will be incorporated as appropriate.

### 3. FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1uWcpYH4AI>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6C8FITm9\\_g&ab\\_channel=RedPandaNetwork](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6C8FITm9_g&ab_channel=RedPandaNetwork)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/26395916.2022.2121762>

[https://news.mongabay.com/2022/11/new-standard-brings-best-practices-to-bear-in-nepals-red-pandaconservation/?fbclid=IwAR13eDfW6Vn20KrKpzfEX4rKjZ2taS7yTYZHS5\\_5LA2TJixgozYxzWUPPw](https://news.mongabay.com/2022/11/new-standard-brings-best-practices-to-bear-in-nepals-red-pandaconservation/?fbclid=IwAR13eDfW6Vn20KrKpzfEX4rKjZ2taS7yTYZHS5_5LA2TJixgozYxzWUPPw)

<https://ekantipur.com/news/2022/11/23/166921578027152585.html?fbclid=IwAR1yGy-kgldWWAbnU8fVSxImhruSvOyCihUk3BmxaJY-dDtCyqOhVpoTjDY>

### 4. GLOSSARY

- CFUG refers to the Community Forest User Group
- I, N, P, D, L refers to the level of assessment (I =International, N = National, P = Provincial, D = District and L = Local).
- FGG, NHP, RPCP, and RPN refer to the standard themes (FGG = Forest Governance Generally, NHP = Natural habitat protection, RPCP = Red Panda Conservation Programs, and RPN = Red Panda Network) related to the overall proper management of the Red Panda and their habitat.
- RPAP, CFOP refers to the national and local plans (RPAP = Red Panda Action Plan, CFOP = Community Forest Operational Plan) related to the Red Panda action plan and community forest operational plans.
- E, W refers to the location of the study area in Nepal (E= Eastern region, W = Western region)
- I, P, T, K, R, D, refers to the districts the CFUGs belong to from whose operational plans some of the means of verifications are ascribed (I = Ilam, T= Taplejung, (1,7) P = Panchthar, K = Kalikot, R = Rolpa, D = Dolkha)
- PB, BP, KJ, D, M, KD, K, H, S, HS, Su, T, L, B, KA, SD refers to the name of the CFUGs from whose operational plans some of the means of verifications has been described (PB = Pallo block CFUG, BP = Basalpachaljharana CFUG, KJ = Karjantar CFUG, D = Dhanepa CFUG, M = Mahadev CFUG, KD = Khadudimreni CFUG, K = Kasturi CFUG, H = Himkalika CFUG, S = Sayaptri CFUG, HS = Himali Sundarpur CFUG, Su = Sunakhari CFUG, T = Timbu Khari Women CFUG, L = Laliguransh CFUG, B = Bhimachulinga CFUG, KA = Karjandhuri CFUG, SD = Singhadevi CFUG)
- Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, and Nad refers to the CFUGs where we took consultation to come up with our means of verification, practices and verification methods for the verifiers.
- Governance refers to the structures and processes for steering or co-ordinating the relations between actors engaged in collective problem solving.
- Indicators are qualitative or quantitative parameters, which are assessed about a criterion, and contribute to the overall determination of performance.
- Means of verification are expected source(s) of information that can help answer the performance question, or indicators (IFAD 2014) (1,2,11,15,19)
- Relevant stakeholders are the stakeholders having a significant and demonstrable bearing on the matter at hand (According to the Merriam Webster online dictionary)
- Stakeholder is a person with an interest or concern in something (Oxford dictionary)
- Standards are a set of principles, criteria, and indicators that act as a basis for monitoring and reporting or as a reference for the assessment of performance (Lammerts Van Bueren and Blom 1997) (1,2,11,15,19)
- Sub-indicator is the one that enables you to split more complex indicators into their basic components
- Verification methods is the process of verifying compliance, including inspection of documentation or records (Wasson 2006: 698) (1,2,11,15,19)
- Verifier is the source of information for the indicator or the reference value of the indicator (Lammerts Van Bueren and Blom 1997: 35). Verifiers are context specific and require negotiation and evaluation in the field.
- Practices refer to the desired ideas, beliefs, and methods the standard is seeking to evaluate.
- Number of submissions to Consultation Draft 1, 2, 10, 20,40,60

Red Panda Governance Standard

Principle: **MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION**

Criterion: **INTEREST REPRESENTATION**

**INDICATOR: INCLUSIVENESS**

**SUB-INDICATOR**

A. Forest governance, Natural habitat protection, Red Panda conservation, and RPN are inclusive of all levels and types of stakeholders, including marginalized people. (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

**VERIFIER**

1.1. Evidence exists of proper stakeholder representation regardless of gender, caste, and class, emphasizing inclusion and participation of indigenous and marginalized groups in all forest governance, Red Panda conservation, natural habitat protection and RPN programmes and activities. (N, P, D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 1.1.1. The representation of the women poor and Dalits is emphasised and mentioned in the operational plan and constitution of the CFUG. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)
- 1.1.2. There is good participation of women, poor and Dalit, which is mentioned in the minutes of the CFUG. (Cho, Sid, Hil, Nad)
- 1.1.3. Active engagement of women and indigenous people as Forest Guardians, which has been recorded in appointment letters and minutes. (NAD, Sid, Bad, Cho, Mab)

**VERIFIER**

1.2. Giving special emphasis on the marginalized communities (women, Dalit, indigenous people), CFUGs, and school children; local stakeholders are given awareness-raising training, campaigns as well as livelihood training regarding the Red Panda and its habitat conservation and conservation programs and activities. (L)(RPCP, RPN)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

1.2.1. Course or bulletin and other reading materials on Red Panda conservation awareness, reading materials and programme to students are provided and recorded of minutes, bulletins itself, receipts, photos

and videos as evidence. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

1.2.2. Some forest management, Red Panda conservation and homestay training are given whose record and proof is in minute with attendance, photos, videos and receipts. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

Hoarding board and awareness raising training to CFUG and record of it in minutes, with attendance, photos and receipt are kept. (Sid, Mah, Bad)

**VERIFIER**

1.3. Proof of involvement and coordination among the private sector, government bodies, formal institutions, and informal institutions (clubs, marginalized groups, networks, social agencies, etc.) during the implementation of programmes and activities to protect the Red Panda and conserve its natural habitat (N, P, D, L). (FGG, NHPP, RPCP, RPN)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 1.3.1. In some way the concerned CFUGs, Gos, NGOs, Local government and other have been participated in the conservation activities and meetings which has been recorded in the minute. (Cho, Hil, Sid, Bad)
- 1.3.2. Students' excursion as ecotourism were held through the Eco clubs and been recorded in the minute. (Cho, Bad)
- 1.3.3. Plantation activities are performed in coordination with the local government, club, CFUG and have record in the minute and receipt. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad, Bad)

**VERIFIER**

1.4. Evidence that the involvement of local communities has been prioritized for the survey and monitoring of the Red Panda's status, habitat quality, and threats. (RPCP, PRN)(Page 1, 16, 30)(L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

1.4.1. Forest guardians performs regular monitoring and fill monitoring form. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)



- 1.4.2. CFUG committee regularly monitor forest and record in operational plan/minute/report. (Cho, Sid, Bad)
- 1.4.3. With the local participation Red Panda block has been prepared, which has been mentioned in the operational plan/ minute. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad)
- 1.4.4. Ecotourism activities are being held and recorded. (Cho, Mah)

#### VERIFIER

- 1.5. Evidence that relevant individuals as per the sanction, constitution, and action plan of the forest are included in CFUG. (FG, RPN)(E-P-PB-C-073-Page-3)(L)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 1.5.1. It has been mentioned in the policy and operational plan of the CFUG. (Cho, Lal, Mah)
- 1.5.2. New migrant joined in the executive committee of the CFUG which have been recorded in minute. (Nad)

#### PRACTICES

- Course or bulletin and other reading materials on Red Panda conservation awareness reading materials and programme to students (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Bad)(1.2.1)
- Forest management, Red Panda conservation, and awareness raising training are given (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.2.2, 1.2.3)
- Homestay training given (Cho, Hil, Mah)(1.2.2)
- Hoarding board related to Red Panda conservation put in public places. (Hil, Bad)(1.2.3)
- Forest Guardians performs regular monitoring and fill monitoring form. (Cho, Hil, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.4.1)
- CFUG committee regular monitoring. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)(1.4.2)
- Red Panda block has been identified and prepared with local participation. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sir, Mah, Bad)(1.4.3)
- Ecotourism activities are being held. (Cho, Hil, Lal, Mah)(1.4.4)
- The emphasis on the representation of the women, poor and Dalits is mentioned in the operational plan and constitution of the CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.1.1)
- Active engagement of women and indigenous people as Forest Guardian. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Nad)(1.1.2)

- Remarkable participation of women, the poor and Dalits. (Cho, Hil, Lal, Sid, Nad)(1.1.3)
- CFUGs, Gos, NGOs, Local government, and others have participated in conservation activities and meetings including plantation. (Cho, Hil, Sid, Nad)(1.3.1)
- Student excursions as ecotourism are held through the Eco clubs. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Mah, Bad)(1.3.2, 1.3.3)
- Operational plans and constitution of CFUG have mentioned new migrant permission to join CFUG. (Hil, Mab, Lal, Cho, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.5.1)
- New migrants joined the executive committee of the CFUG. (Nad, Mah)(1.5.2)
- Verification Methods
- Minute of CFUG on the meeting or program (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad, Mah, Nad)(1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.4.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.3, 1.5.2)
- Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.3.2, 1.3.3)
- Photo of the training/place/program/activities (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Bad)(1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3)
- Bulletins and course book on Red Panda (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Bad)(1.2.1)
- Monitoring form and reports (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.4)
- Payment receipt (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.3.2, 1.3.3)
- Photos and videos of Red Panda and its awareness training (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(1.1.1, 1.4.3, 1.5.1)
- Logbook from ecotourism group (Cho, Hil, Lal, Mah)(1.4.4)
- Appointment letter (Cho, Hil, Lal, Sid, Nad)(1.1.3)
- Agreement paper between another party and CFUG (Cho, Mab, Sid, Mah, Bad)(1.3.2, 1.3.3)
- Identity card of the migrant (Nad, Mah)(1.5.2)

## INDICATOR: EQUALITY

### SUB-INDICATOR

- 2A. All stakeholders including local and marginalized people/communities are given equal priority and their interests are treated equally. (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### VERIFIER

- 2A.1. Evidence exists that the voices of all stakeholders, notably marginalized groups and rights holders are incorporated starting from the project proposal preparation phase, selection of programme activities and during decision making processes. (I, N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

1. Mentioned about it in the operational plan and constitution of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
2. Generally, they invite all the CFUG members and discuss on the agenda and decision made as per all the agreement which is mentioned in the minute. (Cho, Nad, Sid)

#### VERIFIER

- 2A.2. Evidence exists of the equal treatment of all stakeholders and the implementation of integrated programmes to include all relevant interests, particularly marginalized forest dependent communities. (N, P, D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 2A.2.1. This has been mentioned in the operational plan and constitution of the CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 2A.2.2. Timber and firewood, NTFP provided in free to the poor households and those suffered from natural disaster as earthquake and flood and has been recorded in minute. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Hil, Bad, Nad, Mah)

### SUB-INDICATOR

- 2B.1. Equal state brought through awareness and leadership development of marginalized people/communities. (D, L)(FGG, RPCP, RPN)(23)

#### VERIFIER

- 2B.1.1. Based on the utility of the training the target group are sent to them, with emphasis been given to the marginalized. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Mah, Bad)

### SUB-INDICATOR

- 2C Evidence of strengthened and extended community based on the Red Panda conservation initiative. (RPCP, RPN)(Page 20)(L)(From RPAP)

#### VERIFIER

- 2C.1. Evidence of replication of successful activities, and the encouragement of the sharing of experiences of local communities involved in the Red Panda conservation with other Red Panda range areas. (RPCP, RPN) (Page 16)(P, D, L)(From RPAP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 2C.1.1. Have shared the experienced with each other but not documented. (Nad, Sid)
- 2C.1.2. The forest guardian went to the exchange visit and have exchange experiences which is recorded in the report and minute, evidence of photos and videos. (Cho, Hil, Mah)
- 2C.1.3. Had exchange visit for the homestay which record are in minute of CFUG and recommendation letters. (Mah)

#### VERIFIER

- 2C.2. Evidence of community based Red Panda conservation programmes implemented in new locations. (RPCP, RPN)(Page 34)(P, D)(From RPAP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 2C.2.1. Forest guardian identified the scat of the Red Panda in new place and hence helped to mark Panda block in CF. (Nad, Sid, Cho, Mab)

### SUB-INDICATOR

- 2D. The CFUG constitution lists all members and ensures the representatives of all the users (FG, RPN)(L)(From CFOP)

#### VERIFIER

- 2D.1. Evidence of the inclusion of migrant people in CFUG, if they provide the migration certificate and documents as per requirement by the CFUG and abide by conditions mentioned in the constitution and action plan of the CFUG. (FG, RPN)(E-P-PB- constitution-073-Page-3)(L) (From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 2D.1.1. It has been mentioned in CFUG operational plan and constitution. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

2D.1.2. Membership to the migrated families has been provided. (Nad)

#### VERIFIER

2D.2. Evidence of the inclusion of at least 50% of women during the formation of a CFUG in the committee. (FG, RPN)(E-P-PB-C-073-Page-4)(L)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

2D.2.1. It has been mentioned in operational plan and constitution of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

2D.2.2. There are more than 50% women in the CFUG committee and members which is mention in minute. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Mah, Bad)

#### VERIFIER

2D.3. Evidence of provision of opportunities for Marginalized groups in other (non-forest) livelihood activities by the CFUG (FG, RPN)(W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-50)(L)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

2D.3.1. It has been mentioned in CFUG operational plan. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

2D.3.2. Some basic non timber forest product supports were given and recorded in minute. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, ah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

2D.4. Proof of attendance of dalit, women, ethnic, indigenous, poor, and marginalized members and government agencies in the CFUG general assemblies (FG, RPN)(L)(From CFAP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

2D.4.1. Invitation is given to all, and their attendance recorded in the minute of General Assembly and CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad).

#### VERIFIER

2D.5. Evidence of operational plan being prepared in a participatory manner. (FG, RPN) (E-P-PB-OP-073-Page-5)(L)(From CFAP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

2D.5.1. All the members were informed and operational plan being made in their participation which is evidenced in the minute with attendance of the CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

2D.6. Evidence of categorization of four stakeholder categories: rich, middle, poor, and ultra-poor in the CFUG and inclusion of these stakeholders in different programmes and activities prioritizing those in need. (FG, RPN)(E-P-PB-const-073-Page-3)(L)(From CFAP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

2D.6.1. It has been categorized in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Sid)

2D.6.2. Some supports on timber, firewood and NTFP are provided as per requirement and minuted. (Sid, Mab, Nad, Cho)

2D.6.3. Permit have been given to collect NTFP in CF without any charge. (Mah, Bad)

#### PRACTICES

- Mentioned in the CFUG's operational plan and constitution. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.1.1, 2A.2.1, 2D.2.1, 2D.1.1, 2D.3.1)

- All the CFUG members are being invited and discussed the agendas and decisions made as per mentioned in the agreement. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad)(2A.1.2, 2D.5.1)

- Free entry permits and timber and firewood, collection of NTFP and timber provided for free to the poor households and those suffered from natural disaster as earthquakes and floods (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.2.2, 2D.6.2, 2D.6.3)

- Based on the utility of the training, the target group are sent to such training with emphasis being given to the marginalized. (Cho, Sid, Nad)(2B.1.1)

- CFUG members shared their experiences. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(2C.1.1)

- The Forest Guardian went to the exchange visit and exchanged experiences. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2C.1.2)

- Experience an exchange visit to the homestay was conducted. (Cho, Hil, Mah)(2C.1.3)

- Forest Guardian identified the scat of the Red Panda in a new place and hence helped to make new Panda block in CFUG (Lal, Nad)(2C.2.1)

- Migrated households provided CFUG membership as per request. (Nad)(2D.1.2)

- More than 50% of women are among the CFUG committee members. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2D.2.2)
- Some basic non-timber support is given by CFUG income or the rotational/ghumti money (Cho, Sid)(2D.3.2)
- There is the practice of invitation and participation of all in the General Assembly of CFUG. (Cho, Mab, Sid)(2D.4.1)
- Categorization in the operational plan of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mob, Sid, Bad)(2D.6.1)

### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Hil, Mob, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.1.1)(2C.1.3, 2D.1.1, 2D.2.1, 2D.2.2, 2D.3.2, 2D.4.1)
- Minute of CFUG on the meeting or program (Cho, Hil, Mob, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.2.2, 2B.1.1, 2C.1.2, 2C.2.1, 2D.1.2, 2D.3.1, 2D.6.3)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mob, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.1.2, 2A.2.1, 2B.1.1, 2D.2.1, 2D.3.1, 2D.6.1)
- Minute of General Assembly (Cho, Hil, Mob, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.2.1, 2D.3.2, 2D.5.1)
- Receipt (Cho, Hil, Mob, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2A.2.2, 2D.1.2, 2D.2.1, 2D.3.1)
- Recommendation letter (Cho, Hil, Mah, Sid, Nad) (2B.1.1, 2C.1.3)
- Forest Guardian report (Lal, Nad)(2C.2.1)
- Report (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(2C.1.2)
- Photo or/and video (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (2C.1.2)
- Agreement paper (Lal, Nad)(2C.2.1)
- Rotational money (Ghumti Kosh) record (Cho, Sid)(2D.3.1)
- Application letter record (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(2D.6.2)

## INDICATOR: RESOURCES

### SUB-INDICATOR

3. There are sufficient technical, human, and financial resources available to all grassroots stakeholders including marginalized communities and Forest

Guardians for the implementation of forest and Red Panda conservation programmes. (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

### VERIFIER

- 3.1. Evidence exists that forest governance and Red Panda conservation programmes allocate adequate resources to all stakeholders, particularly poor and marginalized groups. (L)(FGG, RPCP & RPN)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 3.1.1. This have been mentioned in the CFUG operational plan but not in practice. (Cho, Nad, Sid, Mab)
- 3.1.2. Green house or other support are being provided to the marginalized and poor HHs on free or subsidy. (Bad, Sid)

### VERIFIER

- 3.2. Evidence of alternative livelihood options and economic empowerment provided to Dalits and marginalized people who rely on the forest for their subsistence, as well as evidence of funding allocation for such programmes and the Red Panda-based entrepreneurship/tourism, and an increase in beneficiaries. (D, L)(FGG, NHPP, RPN) (RPCP, RPN, FG)(Page 33, 34)(From RPAP)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 3.2.1. Mentioned about it in the CFUG operational plan and constitution. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.2.2. Timber, fuelwood and other NTFP materials are given in free or concessions for these people. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.2.3. Ecotourism or homestay trainings and support are provided to the marginalized, women or poor. (Cho, Hil, Mah)
- 3.2.4. Herders are provided with support like improved cooking stoves, improved animal shed, training on fodder plantation, water ponds etc. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal)
- 3.2.5. Women were given training and support on sewing and knitting, making amulets and enterprises development.

### VERIFIER

- 3.3. Evidence of local stakeholders' skill and knowledge being enhanced through training and capacity building aimed at youth, marginalized groups, and herders, with some being trained and mobilised as citizen scientists to monitor and track the Red Pandas as well as handle GPS and camera traps. (FGG, NHPP, RPCP)(FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)(Page 11, 21, 34)(D, L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.3.1. Forest guardians have been trained on the Red Panda and other wildlife conservation and monitoring. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.3.2. GPS provided to the forest guardians to take track record. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.3.3. Awareness and conservation related training has been provided to the CFUG committee which they have been sharing to all the villagers. (Cho, Sid, Nad)
- 3.3.4. Dogs of the herders along with stray are being vaccinated. (Cho, Lal, Mab, Hil)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.4. Evidence that needs based programmes is developed and implemented along with the allocation of appropriate experts and trained field professionals as well as the provision of necessary logistics (equipment, field gears, etc.) to enforcement agencies for the Red Panda conservation and natural habitat protection. (N, P, D, L)(NHP and RPCP, RPN)(FG, RPCP, RPN)(Page 19)(D, L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.4.1. Forest guardians are provided with all the necessary equipment for forest monitoring including proper dress, shoes, GPS, ropes, record book etc. of which minute and receipt are kept. (Cho, Hil, Sid, Mab, Mah, Nad, Bad)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.5. Evidence of the conduct of research and awareness campaigns on the Red Panda, including anti-poaching, illicit trade, and conservation laws. (RPCP, RPN, NHP)(Page 16, 19)(N, P, D, L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.5.1. Training on anti-poaching has been given which is being mentioned in minute. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.5.2. Training on the ecotourism and wildlife and Red Panda importance been provided. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.6. Evidence of the enhancement of the capacity of local and national level law enforcement agencies on anti-poaching investigation skills to control wildlife crime, along with strengthened cooperation and coordination among enforcement agencies and other stakeholders. (FG, RPCP, RPN, NHP)(Page 18)(N, P, D, L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.6.1. Complain on poaching being given to police. (Sid)
- 3.6.2. Concerned stakeholders coordinated patrolling in forest at regular basis. (Sid, Nad)
- 3.6.3. Forest Guardian do regular monitoring and reporting against poaching. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.6.4. Camera traps are installed and regularly checked for poaching monitoring. (Cho, Hil, Mab)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.7. Evidence of 35% of CFUG income is allocated to economic empowerment for marginalized groups (FG, RPN)(E-P-PB-OP-073 Page 15)(E-T-T-OP-077)(L)(From CFOP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.7.1. It has been mentioned in the operational plan and constitution of the CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.7.2. Medical and other required support has been given to the poor and marginalized people. (Cho, Nad, Sid)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.8. Financial and non-financial incentive mechanisms are implemented properly targeting marginalized groups. (L)(FGG, NHP, RPC, RPN)(W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-11), E-T-T-OP-077-Page-7)(E-T-T-OP-077-Page-62) From RPAP, From CFOP

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.8.1. It is being mentioned in operational plan and constitution of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.8.2. Livelihood improvement training and support on programs are being given. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

**VERIFIER**

- 3.9. Evidence exists that all key stakeholders including marginalized groups and indigenous people are well informed about inclusion. (N, P, D, L)(FGG, RPCP, RPN)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 3.9.1. Mentioned about it in the operational plan and constitution. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 3.9.2. Mentioned them about it during the meetings and minutes. (Cho, Sid, Nad)
- 3.9.3. Training is given to all regarding the social inclusion. (Cho, Mah, Bad, Nad)

## PRACTICES

- Training in Red Pandas and other wildlife's importance and their conservation and monitoring. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(3.3.1, 3.5.2)
- GPS is provided to the CFUG's Forest Guardians to keep the location records. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(3.3.2)
- Awareness training is provided to the CFUG Executive committee members which they disseminate to all. (Cho, Sid)(3.3.3)
- Dogs in the area are vaccinated. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal)(3.3.4)
- Forest Guardians are provided with all the necessary equipment for forest monitoring including proper dress, shoes, GPS, ropes, record book, etc. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(3.4.1)
- Anti-poaching training is given to the Forest Guardians and others. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.5.1)
- Poor and marginalized are given priority in the CFUG operational plan. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.1.1, 3.2.1)
- Greenhouses and other support are being provided to the poor and marginalized for free. (Sid, Bad, Mab)(3.1.2)
- Timber, fuel wood, and other NTFP materials are given for free or concessions for marginalized people. (Cho, Hil, (3.2.2)
- Eco-tourism or homestay training and support are provided to the marginalized, women, or poor. (Cho, Hile, Mah)(3.2.3)
- Herders are provided with support like improved cooking stoves, improved animal sheds, training on fodder plantation, water ponds, etc. (Cho, Hile, Mab, Sid, Mah, Bad)(3.2.4)
- Women are given training and support on sewing and knitting, making amulets, and enterprise development. (Cho, Hil)(3.2.5)
- Police complaints are found to be given if someone finds the poaching of wildlife being done. (Sid, Bad)(3.6.1)
- Coordinated forest monitoring especially for poaching performed at least 1 time in a year. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)(3.6.2)
- Forest Guardian monitors poaching in the forest regularly. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.6.3)
- Camera traps are installed in the forest to monitor poaching activities. (Cho, Mab)(3.6.4)
- Allocation of 35% of CFUG income for the marginalized has been mentioned in the operational plan and constitution document of the CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.7.1)
- Some medical support money has been given out of CFUG income. (Sid, Nad)(3.7.2)
- Livelihood improvement training and support on programs like incent making, chips making, greenhouse, homestay, etc. are being provided. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad, Mah, Nad)(3.1.2)
- They have mentioned social inclusion in the operational plan. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad, Mah, Nad)(3.9.1)
- CFUG members talk about social inclusion with the marginalized and indigenous people. (Bad, Cho)(3.9.2)
- Training regarding social inclusion was given to some CFUGs. (Cho, Bad)(3.9.3)

## VERIFICATION METHODS

- Training, programs, dissemination, and other activities minutes in the CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.1.2, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.4.1, 3.5.1, 3.5.2, 3.1., 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.6.1, 3.6.4, 3.7.2, 3.9.2, 3.9.3)
- Forest Guardian working in CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.3.1, 3.6.2)
- Photos and videos of the programs, objects/things/wildlife or activities (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.4.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.6.2, 3.6.3, 3.6.4, 3.9.3)
- GPS coordinates being recorded (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(3.3.2)
- Copy of NGO/other organization concerned work record (Cho, Sid)(3.4.1)
- Logbook record (Cho, Mah)(3.4.1, 3.6.2)
- Receipt / Bharpai (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.4.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.6.4, 3.7.2)
- Reports by Forest Guardian and others (Cho, Mab, Sid)(3.5.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.3)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(3.5.1, 3.5.2, 3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.7.1, 3.8.1, 3.9.1)
- Copy of minute of the ecotourism group (Cho, Mah)(3.5.2)

- Recommendation letter (Cho, Mah, Sid, Nad) (3.1.2, 3.7.2)
- Application letter to the police (Nad, Sid) (3.6.1, 3.7.2)
- Camera Trap (Cho, Mab) (3.6.4)
- Phone, SMS (Cho, Hil, Lal, Sid) (3.9.3)
- Letter (Cho, Mab, Nad, Sid) (3.9.3)

## Criterion: **ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

### **INDICATOR: ACCOUNTABILITY**

#### **SUB-INDICATOR**

4. All training, programs, and activities are held in an accountable manner involving all stakeholders, including women and the other marginalized people/ communities as well as other stakeholders such as divisional and municipal level governmental organizations. (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.1. Proof that forest governance programmes and activities are accountable to all people including marginalized groups. (I, N, D, P, L) (FGG, NHP & RPCP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.1.1. All the members work together and decide together which has been recorded on the minute. (Cho, Sid, Nad)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.2. All stakeholders held accountable for conservation of the Red Panda, its habitat and forest management and there exists effective monitoring mechanism. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN & CFOP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.2.1. All the stakeholders actively participate in the regular meetings. (Nad, Sid, Cho)
- 4.2.2. All the stakeholders together go for the forest monitoring. (Bad, Sid, Cho)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.3. All stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups, are aware of their roles and responsibilities and evidence exists that training about accountability is provided to them. (D, L) (FGG, RPCP & RPN, CFOP) (E-P-PB-065-constitution-Page-3)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.3.1. Training on accountability been provided to the marginalized people. (Cho, Mab)
- 4.3.2. Active participation of the marginalized during the regular meetings and other activities. (Sid, Nad)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.4. Evidence of clear policies, laws, regulations, guidelines, and plans being developed, and documented, in coordination with local government, and enforced. (I, N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.4.1. While making the new OP, the local government representative was also invited, and suggestions acquired and recorded. (Cho, Sid)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.5. Illegal activities undertaken by CFUGs, committees, and other relevant bodies are sanctioned. (FG, RPN, NHP) (E-P-PB-constitution-073-Page-3) (E-P-HS-OP-077-Chapter-3) (L) (From CFOP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.5.1. Have evidence of some minor sanction taken within CFUG, while illegal activities were undertaken. (Sid, Bad)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 4.6. Proof of that constitution and OP of CFUG is prepared and amended and modified as required. (FG, RPN) (E-P-PB-C-073-Page-3) (E-P-SD-075-subchapter-13) (L) (From CFAP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 4.6.1. There is the evidence of the area of the CFUG been changed as per requirement. (Bad)
- 4.6.2. There are the evidence of policies and activities in the new OP. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

## PRACTICES

- The local government representative and some other concerned stakeholders were also invited, and suggestions were gathered and documented as the new OP was being created. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad)(4.4.1)
- Each member actively participates and collaborates while making decisions. (Cho, Nad)(4.1.1)
- At the meetings, concerned parties take an active part. (Cho, Nad)(4.2.1)
- Sometimes the concerned stakeholders go together to monitor the forest. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)(4.2.2)
- Many marginalized people particularly in the east have received accountability training. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal)(4.3.1)
- Marginalized people are actively involved in the CFUG activities and meetings. (Cho, Nad)(4.3.2)
- Illegal activities like felling tree and cutting bamboo without permission was found done by some members and they were sanctioned by making them pay fine according to the severity of those actions. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(4.5.1)
- The area of the CFUG has been increased and has been mentioned in the new recent operational plan. (Bad)(4.6.1)
- Some new pages on Red Panda-focused policies, activities and block have been added to the new operational plan. (Cho, Sid, Mah, Bad)(4.6.2)

## VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute of CFUG with attendance for meetings, programmes, and other activities (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (4.4.1, 4.1.1, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.6.2)
- General assembly minute (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(4.1.1)
- Audit report (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(4.1.1)
- A copy of the minute of the concerned NGO/Organization (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad)(4.2.1, 4.2.2)
- Recommendation letter by the CFUG (Cho, Nad, Bad)(4.3.1)
- Fine payment records (Bad, Sid, Cho)(4.5.1)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(4.6.1, 4.6.2)

- General Assembly (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(4.6.1, 4.6.2)
- Application letter (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(4.6.1, 4.6.2)

## INDICATOR: TRANSPARENCY

### SUB-INDICATOR

5. A. All the Red Panda-related programmes and activities ensure transparency through proper, regular and transparent documentation, auditing, public hearings continuous monitoring of activities and dissemination of information to all, provision of record keeping and training related to transparency. (All 4 programs FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

### VERIFIER

- 5A1. Evidence of the conduct of public hearings and public auditing on a regular basis. (D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5A.1.1. Public hearings and public audit conducted every year during the Annual General assembly. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

### VERIFIER

- 5A.2. Evidence of the sharing of information about all programmes and activities with the local communities and other stakeholders through regular meetings, webinars, public notice board IEC materials, hoarding boards, websites, and broadcasting of reports and publications. (N, D, L)(FGG, RPCP, RPN & CFOP)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5A.2.1. There is evidence of sharing of the information about all programmes activities with local communities through Media-FM, minute of meetings, letters, SMS/Phone, Facebook invitation, public hearings, pamphlet and hoarding boards. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 5A.2.2. There is evidence of sharing of the information about all programmes activities with local stakeholders through meetings and minutes, Media-FM, SMS/phone, public hearings, facebook invitation, pamphlet, hoarding boards and letters. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

### VERIFIER

- 5A.3. Timely information is provided to all stakeholders about the program and events along with its goals, objectives,



expected outcomes, achieved outcomes, budgets, and target beneficiaries. (I, N, P, D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN & CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

1. Information about the program and events along with its goals, objectives, expected outcomes, achieved outcomes, budgets, and target beneficiaries to all CFUG members during the general assembly, it could be seen from the CFUG meeting and minutes, phone, and message in social media groups as messenger groups. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

- 5A.4. Evidence of forest product sales and distribution process is mentioned in the OP. (FG) (E-T-T-OP-077-Page-25)(L)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5A.4.1. Decision regarding monitoring of forest product sales and distribution process in the OP is discussed with CFUG members and minuted. (CHO, Mab, Bad, Sid)
- 5A.4.2. Forest product sales and distribution process is mentioned in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

- A5.5. Proof of provision of a map of community-based conservation processes and models. (FG, RPN, RPCP) (W-K-BP-Page-76) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-5) (L) (From CFOP)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

1. Ecotourism, homestay, water pond, bio-fencing, fodder plantation and bamboo plantation are being established as conservation processes models and documents a s well. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

- 5A.6. Proof of map of CF and block division where a single block is delineated for the Red Panda conservation. [TRANSPARENCY] (FG, RPN, RPCP) (W-K-BP-OP-077-Page-57) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-58). (W-K-M-OP-078-Page-4) (W-D-K-OP-77-Page-14) (W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-27)(L)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5A.6.1. It is mentioned in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

- 5A.7 Evidence of the development of effective monitoring and legally binding mechanism to ensure transparency.

#### VERIFIER

- 5B.1. An effective monitoring mechanism exists to supervise that stakeholders are accountable for the conservation of the Red Panda.

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5B.1.1. Forest Guardians monitors and reports his observations in the forest. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 5B.2.2. Monitoring committee monitor the forest in regular basis. (Mab, Cho, Sid, Bad)

#### VERIFIER

- 5C.1. Proof of sensitization and provision of training about transparency, account and record-keeping training to local stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups and CFUG members. (L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 5C.1.1. Division forest office, RPN and other concerned organizations have been providing the transparency, account and record keeping trainings where the CFUG committee members and other members been sent as per feasibility. (Sid, Cho)

#### PRACTICES

- During the Annual General Assembly, public hearings and audits are held annually. (Cho, hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.1.1)
- Training on transparency, accounting, and record-keeping has been provided by the Division Forest Office, RPN, and other relevant Organizations. (Cho, Hil, Sid, Nad)(5C.1.1)
- All the CFUG members and locals and related stakeholders receive information about the program and events along with its goals, objectives, expected outcomes, achieved outcomes, budgets, and target beneficiaries during the general assembly, from the CFUG meeting and minutes, letter, phone, SMS, message in social media groups as messenger groups, Media-FM, public hearings, pamphlet and hoarding boards. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.2.1, 5A.2.2, 5A.3.1, 5A.3.2)
- The decision on whether to mention the sales and distribution of forest products in the Operational plan is discussed with the CFUG members. (Cho, Nad)(5A.4.1)

- Forest product sales and distribution process is mentioned in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.4.2)
- Models for conservation procedures like ecotourism, homestays, water ponds, bio-fencing, fodder plantations, and bamboo plantations were developed. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.5.1)
- CFUG block divisions are mentioned in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.6.1)
- Forest Guardian monitors the CFUG four times a year. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5B.1.1)
- The monitoring committee monitors the forest on an annual basis. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(5B.1.2)

#### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute of CFUG with attendance on different programs, activities, and training (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (5A.1.1, 5A.2.1, 5A.2.2, 5C.1.1, 5A.3.1, 5A.3.2, 5A.4.1, 5A.4.2, 5A.5.1, 5B.1.1)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (5A.1.1, 5A.3.1, 5A.4.1, 5A.4.2, 5A.5.1, 5A.6.1, 5B.1.1,1,2)
- Minute of internal/ General Assembly (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.1.1, 5A.2.1, 5A.3.2)
- Copy of minutes kept by the concerned NGO/Organization, Report (Cho, Sid)(5B.1.2)
- Public hearings (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.2.2)
- Audit Report (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (5A.1.1, 5A.5.1)
- Photo/Video (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(5A.1.1, 5A.5.1)
- SMS/Phone (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(5A.1.1, 5A.2.1, 5A.2.2, 5A.3.1)
- Social media like a Facebook invitation (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad) (5A.1.1, 5A.2.1, 5A.2.2, 5A.3.1, 5A.3.2)
- Pamphlet (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad)(Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.2.1, 5A.2.2)
- Invitation letters (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(5C.1.1, 5A.3.2, 5A.5.1, 5B.1.1)

- Recommendation letter (Cho, Sid)(5C.1.1, 5A.5.1, 5B.1.1)
- Hoarding board (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(5A.1.1, 5A.2.2)
- Letter (Cho, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad, Nad) (5A.1.1, 5A.2.1, 5A.2.2, 5A.3.2)
- Media-FM (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad)(5A.2.2)

## Principle: **PRODUCTIVE DELIBERATION**

### Criterion: **DECISION MAKING**

#### INDICATOR: **DEMOCRACY**

##### SUB-INDICATOR

- 6A. Programmes' plans, activities, and decisions are made with the participation of relevant stakeholders including local and marginalized people/communities. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN (statement a) in all)

##### VERIFIER

- 6A.1. Evidence of participation of all relevant stakeholders, including indigenous and marginalized groups to represent their choice and voice in democratic decision-making processes, including planning, prioritization, and implementation of forest governance programmes. (L) (NHP, RPCP, RPN & CFOP)

##### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 6A.1.1. All local and relevant stakeholder including the marginalized group like women and Dalit were involved for their voice and choice in the democratic decision making, planning, prioritization and implementation which we can see from the minute of the CFUG. (Nad, Sid, Cho, Mab)

##### VERIFIER

- 6A.2. Evidence of natural habitat protection programmes and activities following a bottom-up approach with active inclusion of women, Dalit, indigenous people, and youth. (N, P, D, L)

##### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 6A.2.1. By active participation of the woman, Dalit, indigenous people and youth; natural habitat protection programmes and activities are following a bottom-up

approach which is evidenced in operational plan and minutes of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

6A.3. Evidence that planning, prioritization, and implementation of programme and activities are fully democratized, and the flow of resources and potential risks are managed and controlled. (N, P, D, L) (NHP & RPCP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

6A.3.1. By active participation of the woman Dalit, indigenous people and youth; planning, prioritization, and implementation of programme and activities are fully democratized been evidenced by the attendance in minute. (Cho, Nad, Sid, Hil)

6A.3.2. Flow of resources and potential risks are managed and controlled in democratic way with active participation and decision of all including the marginalized. (Cho, Nad, Sid)

#### SUB-INDICATOR

6B. Training on democracy and democratic decision making is provided to all stakeholders, notably marginalized people/ communities and youth. (D, L)(FGG & RPN)

#### VERIFIER

6B.1. Programmes and activities ensure that to all local stakeholders including marginalized groups are well informed and provide training on leadership and democratic decision- making practices. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP and RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

6B.1.1. All including the marginalized were provided training on leadership and decision making evidenced by attendance in minute and photos. (Cho, Mab)

#### PRACTICES

- All local and relevant stakeholders including the marginalized group like women and Dalits were involved for their voice and choice in the democratic decision making, planning, and prioritization. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(6A.1.1)

- With the active participation of the woman Dalit, indigenous people and youth; natural habitat protection programmes and activities were conducted following a bottom-up approach. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(6A.2.1)

- The design, prioritization, and execution of programs and activities are fully democratic with the active participation

of women from Dalit communities, indigenous people, and youth. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(6A.3.1)

- Resources are handled and governed democratically, with everyone including the marginalized engaging in the decision-making process. (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Nad) 6A.3.2)

- Training in leadership and decision-making was given to everyone, including marginalized groups. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad)(6B.1.1)

#### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(6A.1.1, 6A.2.1, 6A.3.1, 6A.3.2, 6B.1.1)

- Minute of the internal Assembly (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(6A.1.1)

- Operational plan and constitution of the CFUG (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad)(6A.1.1, 6B.1.1)

- Annual General Assembly (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(6A.2.1, 6A.3.1, 6A.3.2)

- Invitation letter (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(6B.1.1)

- Recommendation letter (Cho, Nad, Sid)(6B.1.1)

- Record of committee formation (Cho, Sid)(6B.1.1)

### INDICATOR: AGREEMENT

#### SUB-INDICATOR

7A. Agreements are made involving all local stakeholders including donors, government authorities, community forest user groups, and community groups, as well as local stakeholders, and marginalized people and communities. (I, N, P, D, L)(FGG (a), NHP, RPCP (a) & RPN (a))

#### VERIFIER

7A.1. Evidence exists of the reaching of the agreement by consensus among all concerned stakeholders based on majority votes. (I, N, P, D, L)(FGG, NHP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

7A.1.1. The agreements are being reached by majority vote among all parties stakeholders involved which is evidenced by the attendance and minute of the CFUG along with agreement. (Nad, Sid, Cho)

#### VERIFIER

7A.2. Evidence exists that all stakeholders are informed,

consulted and involved regarding n agreements made. (N, P, D, L)(FGG, NHP & RPCP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

1. Attendance and minute of the CFUG recorded. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### SUB-INDICATOR

- 7B. All agreements are implemented according to the decisions made. (N, P, D, L)(RPCP (b) & RPN (b))

#### VERIFIER

- 7B.1. Evidence exists that agreement are made for long term basis and programmes and activities are conducted based on agreement made. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 7B.1.1. Programmes and activities are being conducted based on the agreement which is evidenced in the minutes and agreement and monitoring report. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Nad)

#### VERIFIER

- 7B.2. Evidence that agreements made are corruption free, politically unbiased, and elite and leader influence free. (N, P, D, L)(FGG, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 7B.2.1. The agreements made are corruption free, politically unbiased, and elite and leader influence free as being mentioned in OP, audit report and minute of CFUG. (Nad, Cho)

#### SUB-INDICATOR

- 7C. Training is provided to increase the negotiation, decision-making and mediation capabilities of the local stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups. (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### VERIFIER

- 7C.1. Evidence exists of capacity building of stakeholders mainly marginalized groups related to enhancing negotiation skill and reaching agreement. (P, D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 7C.1. 1.These training and skills development occurred and evidenced in minute, invitation and recommendation letters. (Cho, Hil, Bad)

#### PRACTICES

- The agreement is made by majority vote among all parties

and interested parties. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(7A.1.1)

- Minute with attendance of the CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(7A.2.1)

- Agreement paper being made and signed by all. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Nad)(7A.2.2)

- The programs and activities are being carried out according to the agreement. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(7B.1.1)

- The agreements reached are free of elite and leader influence, political bias, and corruption. (Cho, Sid, Nad)(7B.2.1)

- There are occurrences of skill development training. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Bad, Mah)(7C.1.1)

#### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute with attendance of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(7A.1.1, 7A.2.1, 7B.1.1, 7B.2.1, 7C.1.1)

- Agreement paper (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(7A.1.1, 7A.2.2, 7B.1.1)

- Monitoring report (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(7B.1.1)

- Audit report (Cho, Sid, Nad)(7B.2.1)

- Invitation letter (Cho, Hil, Mab, Bad, Mah)(7C.1.1)

- Public hearing (Cho, Sid, Nad)(7B.2.1)

- Recommendation letter (Cho, Hil, Mab, Bad, Mah)(7C.1.1)

### INDICATOR: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

#### SUB-INDICATOR

- 8A. Disputes between stakeholders at all levels and across all sectors are settled with the help of facilitating stakeholders/organizations. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)

#### VERIFIER

- 8A.1. Evidence exists of dispute settlement through proper consultation and discussion with concerned parties and in coordination with concerned institutions and government bodies depending upon the nature of disputes. (D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 8A.1.1. No big issues till, though disputes are being settle through the proper consultation, discussion, with the

concerned authorities based on their nature. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

8A.1.2. The dispute regarding the CFUG border was solved with meeting with of division forest office. (Sid)

### SUB-INDICATOR

8B. Mechanisms to settle disputes are in place. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)

### VERIFIER

8B.1. Where possible, there are mechanisms in place, to address and settle disputes and manage grievances. (N, D, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

8 B.1.1. Not felt required till now so don't have it but can have complaint box where the person can give the application letter and decision will made to improve that. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

### VERIFIER

8B.2. Evidence of rules being formulated for controlling the presence of the guard dogs and stray dogs in the Red Panda habitats. (FG, NHP, TPCP, RPN)(Page 19)(L)(W-D-K-OP-077-Page-17) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) (L) [From RPAP and CFOP]

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

8B.2.1. Not a problem here so is only in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

8B.2.2. Guard dogs and stray dogs are being vaccinated and kept minute record. (Cho, Hil, Lal, Mab)

8B.2.3. Awareness training are being provided to educate CFUG on how dog can harm wildlife including Red Panda. (Cho, Hil, Lal, Mab)

### VERIFIER

8B.3. Evidence that the person who reports a forest crime (eg. cutting down the forest), provides information, or helps in their arrest, are rewarded according to the decision of the committee. (FG, RPN, NHP, RPCP)(E-PB-constitution-Page-8)(W-D-K-OP- Page-23) (L) (From CFOP)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

8b.3.1. The arrangement of it has been made on operational plan but no implementation. (Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

8B.3.2. Have evidence of such useful complaints and hence being rewarded. (Sid, Bad)

### SUB-INDICATOR

8C. Conflict resolution training is provided to all stakeholders. (FGG, RPCP, RPN)

### VERIFIER

8C.1. Evidence exists of stakeholders' mainly marginalized group being provided with the conflict resolution training and workshops to settle disputes and minimize conflicts. (N, D, P, L)(FGG, NHP, RPCP, and RPN)

### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

8C.1.1. Training on conflict resolution is provided from the concerned stakeholders and minuted. (Lal, Hil, Mab, Cho)

### PRACTICES

- No big issues till, though disputes are settled through the proper consultation and discussion with the concerned authorities based on their nature. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(8A.1.1)

- The dispute regarding the CFUG border was solved with a meeting with divisional forest office. (Sid)(8A.1.2)

- Not felt required till now so don't have it. (Cho, Nad, Mab, Bad) (8B.1.1)

- Not a problem here so is only in the operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(8B.2.1)

- Guard dogs and stray dogs are being vaccinated and kept a minute record. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Bad)(8B.2.2)

- Awareness training is being provided to educate CFUG on how dog can harm wildlife including Red Panda. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Bad)(8B.2.3)

- The arrangement of it has been made on the operational plan but no implementation. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah, Bad)(8B.3.1)

- Some people have been provided with small rewards for their encouragement. (Sid, Mab)(8B.3.2)

- One day training on conflict resolution was provided by the police and DFO. (Hil, Sid)(8C.1.1)

### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(8A.1.1, 8A.1.2, 8B.1.1, 8B.2.2, 8B.2.3, 8B.3.2, 8C.1.1)

- Agreement paper (Cho, Sid, Mab, Nad)(8A.1.1, 8A.1.2)

- Application letter (Cho, Nad, Mab, Bad)(8B.1.1)
- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(8B.2.1, 8B.2.2, 8B.3.1)
- Photos/videos (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Bad)(8B.2.3)
- Certificate of Achievement (Sid, Mab)(8B.3.2)
- Invitation letter (Hil, Sid)(8C.1.1)
- Recommendation letter (Hil, Sid)(8C.1.1)
- Complaint box (Cho, Nad, Mab, Bad)(8B.1.1)

## Criterion: **IMPLEMENTATION**

### **INDICATOR: BEHAVIOUR CHANGE**

#### **SUB-INDICATOR**

9. Programmes contribute to behaviour change through alternative livelihood and employment programmes, awareness training for forest, plantation and Red Panda management, targeting CFUGs, local people, women, the poor and marginalized groups. (FGG, NHP, RPC, CFOP)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 9.1. Proof of provision of payment of ecosystem service in the MoFE of GoN policy for forest conservation and tree planting, as well as rules for the provision of utilizing timber, fodder, fuelwood, bamboo, and grass from the forest area and cultivating potential herbs and NTFPs. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)(W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-10, 50) (E-P-SD-075-chapter-9)(PB\_P-E-073-Page-2)(W-R-KJ-P-OP-077-Page-10-No-4) (D, L) (E-T-T-OP-077 -Page-20)(PB\_P-E-073-Page-2)(W-R-KJ-P-OP-077-Page-10-No-4)(E-T-S-OP-074-Page-26)(E-T-S-OP-074-Page-40) (E-P-HS-OP-075-chapter-6) (E-P-Si-OP-075-Chapter-6) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-7)(E-P-SD-075-chapter-6)(L) (From RPAP)(From CFOP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 9.1.1. Such things have been mentioned in the operational plan and works accordingly. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 9.2. Arrangements for the conservation of wildlife and biodiversity in forest areas through habitat restoration, corridor development, and water conservation as well as detailed reports on the status of biodiversity are

being mentioned in the OP. (RPCP, NHP) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-44) (E-T-T-OP-077-Page-5) (E-P-HS-OP-075-subchapter-1.5) (E-P-SD-075-chapter-3) (D, L) (From CFOP and RPAP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 9.2.1. All these things have been mentioned in the operational plan.
- 9.2.2. Practice of the bamboo and other trees plantation and restoration ponds establishment which are evidenced through minute, report, receipt, social media. (Cho, Hil, Sid, Mah, Nad)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 9.3. Evidence of exchange visits being organized to learn and share best practices at local and transboundary levels of the Red Panda range countries. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN) (From RPAP (Page 21))(I, N)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 9.3.1. Forest guardians internal exchange visit being held and minuted. (Cho, Sid)
- 9.3.2. Marginalized women initiating homestay exchange visit. (Mah)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 9.4. Evidence of an increase in the number of herders adopting improved herding practice and awareness raising training being given in the hamlet to control forest fires. (NHP, RPCP, RPN, FGG)(Page 33)(E-T-T-OP-077-Page-8)(D, L)(From CFOP)(From RPAP)

#### **MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

- 9.4.1. Training on the proper herding practices has been given to the herders. (Cho, Mab)
- 9.4.2. Herders are also practicing stall feeding and avoiding over exploitation of the forest. (Cho, Hil Mab)
- 9.4.3. There has been improvement in the herding practice like not taking the animals to the sensitive areas of the forest which has been now mentioned in the minute. (Cho, Hil, Mab)

#### **VERIFIER**

- 9.5. Evidence of positive changes observed in behaviour of the students and youths after implementation of the local curriculum which was prepared incorporating Red panda conservation programmes and activities. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)(I, N)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

9.5.1. Students has become more aware about the need of conserving Red Panda which we can know by talking with them and reported by their teacher. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)

**PRACTICES**

- It is mentioned in the OP, and they work mostly accordingly. (Cho, Mab, Sid)(9.1.1)
- The conservation strategies and activities mentioned about it in the OP. (Cho, Mab, Sid)(9.2.1)
- The practice of bamboo and other trees plantation, restoration ponds, etc. is established. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)(9.2.2)
- Forest Guardians' internal exchange visit is being practiced. (9.3.1)
- Marginalized women initiating homestay were sent to Ghale gaon as exchange visits. (Mah)(9.3.2)
- Training on the proper herding practices has been given to the herders. (Cho, Mab, Lal)(9.4.1)
- Herders are also practicing stall feeding and avoiding over-exploitation of the forest. (Cho, Mab, Lal)(9.4.2)
- There has been improvement in the herding practice like not taking the animal to the sensitive areas of the forest. (Cho, Mab, Hil)(9.4.3)

**VERIFICATION METHODS**

- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(9.1.1, 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.4.3)
- Permit (Cho, Mab, Sid)(9.1.1)
- Photos/videos (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(9.2.2, 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.4.3)
- Invitation letter (Cho, Mah, Hil)(9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.4.1)
- Recommendation letter by the CFUG (Cho, Mah, Hil) (9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.4.1)

**INDICATOR: PROBLEM SOLVING****SUB-INDICATOR**

10 A. Forest governance, Natural habitat protection, Red Panda conservation programs, and RPN addresses the concerns and problems of all relevant stakeholders,

including communities and marginalized groups regarding Red Panda conservation and natural habitat protection, including forest and bamboo conservation. (FGG, RPCP, NHP, RPN)

**VERIFIER**

10 A.1. Evidence exists of proper forest management plans and activities being held including identifying the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and developing responses. (N, P, D, L)(NHP, RPC, RPN)(From CFOP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

10A.1.1. Only in the operational plan and constitution of CFUG not in practice. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

10A.1.2. Some practices tried to be followed for conservation of wildlife and been minuted. (Cho, Nad)

**VERIFIER**

10A.2. Evidence of CFUGs related protection activities being held. (FGG, NHP). (E-P-PB-OP-073-Page-5)(W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-39)(E-T-S-OP-074-Page-29,30)(E-P-HS-OP-075-Subchapter-3.2-Chha) (E-P-Su-OP-069-Page-11)(E-T-T-OP-077-Page-18) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-4) (W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-13) (E-P-SD-075-chapter-3) (L) (From CFOP) (From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

10A.2.1. Forest monitoring at regular basis by the monitoring committee. (Sid, Bad)

10A.2.2. Forest guardian monitoring forest and reporting in regularly. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

10A.2.3. Basic forest management operations like forest bushes cleaning being done. (Sid, Cho, Bad, Mab)

10A.2.4. Plantation of bamboo, trees, pond establishment, fencing activities done and recorded. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

10A.2.5. Vaccination to the dogs. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal)

10A.2.6. Camera trap installed for tracking animals and poaching. (Cho, Hil, Mab)

**SUB-INDICATOR**

10B Forest governance, Natural habitat protection, Red Panda conservation, and RPN conducts conservation programmes that build local networks and improve the livelihoods of marginalized communities at the local level. (FGG, NHP, RPC, RPN)

#### VERIFIER

10B.1. In the CFUG operational plan there is evidence of need for research and monitoring, education and public awareness, shelter management, and sustainable livelihoods for the protection of the Red Pandas. (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) (FG, NHP, RPCP) (W-K-BP-OP-077-Page-49) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-57) (E-T-S-OP-074-Page-29,30) (E-T-S-OP-074-Page-67) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11)(W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-29)(L)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 10B.1.1. Though in operational plan all that need has been mentioned, only some are in practice. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 10B.1.2. Awareness training to the CFUG members and other being given and documented. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad)
- 10B.1.3. School bulletin, and course book published for the awareness to the children. (Cho, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)
- 10B.1.4. Shelter management with the tree and bamboo plantation, recharge pond and fencing being constructed and documented. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)
- 10B.1.5. Homestay, ecotourism, proper/improved herding for the livelihood option been established. (Cho, Mah, Hil)

#### VERIFIER

10B.2 Evidence of the coordination of the National Wildlife Crime Control Coordination Committee (NWCCCC) and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) with relevant authorities in the respective district units, to targeting illegal wildlife trade and poaching of endangered species, including (but not restricted to) the Red Panda. (FGG, NHP, RPCP) (FGG, RPCP) (E-P-PB-C-073-Page-7) (Page 10)(N, P, D, L)(From RPAP)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

10B.2.1. CFUG, NWCCC and other authorities regular or annual monitoring for poaching control and documentation. (Cho, Sid, Bad)

#### VERIFIER

10B.3. Evidence of community based anti-poaching units employed at the local level to curb and deter wildlife poaching.

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

10B.3.1. Regular patrolling by the community based anti-poaching unit and documentation of it. (Sid, Bad, Cho, Mab)

10B.3.2. Forest guardians monitoring forest for anti-poaching and reporting. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

10B.3.3. Camera trap installed to detect poachers as well. (Cho, Hil, MMab)

#### VERIFIER

10B.4. Evidence dog owners are punished according to the National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and Forest Act 2019 when a wild animal is harmed by a dog. (FG, RPN, RPCP) (W-K-BP-Page-53) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page61)(W-D-K-OP-Page-23)(E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) (W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-)(E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) ( D , L)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

10B.4.1. Dog owners punished for killing or wounding of the wild life by their dogs. (Cho, Mab, Hil)

#### PRACTICES

- Have tried some of the activities for the conservation of wildlife. (Cho, il, mab, Sid, Bad)(10A.1.2)
- Forest monitoring performed at regular basis by the monitoring committee. (Cho, Sid, Nad, Bad)(10A.2.1)
- Forest Guardian does forest monitoring and reporting regularly. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Bad, Nad)(10A.2.2)
- Basic forest management operations like forest bush cleaning are being performed. (Cho, Sid)(10A.2.3)
- Plantation of bamboo, trees, pond establishment, and fencing activities has been performed. (Cho, Hile, Mab, Sid, Bad)(10A.2.4)
- Camera trap has been installed for tracking animals and poaching. (Cho, Mab)(10A.2.6)
- Vaccination of the dogs was performed. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal) (10A.2.5)
- Though in the operational plan all those needs have been mentioned only some are in practice. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(10B.1.1)
- Awareness training to the CFUG members and other are given. (Cho, hil, mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(10B.1.2)
- School bulletin and course book are published for the awareness of the children. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)(10B.1.3)
- Shelter management with the tree and bamboo plantation,



recharge pond, and fencing is being conducted. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(10B.1.4)

- Homestay, ecotourism, and proper/improved herding for the livelihood option have been established. (Cho, mah)(10B.1.5)
- CFUG, NWCCC, and other authorities' regular or annual monitoring for poaching control are in practice. (Cho, Mab, Hil)(10B.2.1)
- Regular Patrolling by the Community based anti-poaching unit is in practice. (Sid, Cho)(10B.3.1)
- Forest Guardian has been monitoring the forest for poaching. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(10B.3.2)
- Camera trap has also been installed to detect poachers. (Cho, Mab)(10B.3.3)

#### VERIFICATION METHODS

- Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(10A.1.1, 10A.1.2, 10A.2.1, 10A.2.2, 10A.2.3, 10A.2.4, 10A.2.5, 10A.2.6, 10B.1.1, 10B.2.1, 10B.4.3)
- Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)(10A.1.2, 10A.2.1, 10A.2.2, 10A.2.3, 10A.2.4, 10A.2.5, 10A.2.6, 10B.1.2, 10B.1.3, 10B.1.4, 10B.1.5, 10B.2.1, 10B.3.1, 10B.3.2, 10B.4.1)
- Photos/Videos (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad) (10B.1.2, 10B.1.4, 10B.1.5, 10B.2.1, 10B.2.1, 10B.3.1, 10B.3.2, 10B.3.3)
- Receipt (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad)(10B.1.4, 10B.1.5)
- A copy of the minute of the concerned Organization (Cho, Mab, Hil)(10B.2.1)
- Invitation letter (Cho, Mab, Hil)(10B.2.1)
- Report (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad)(10B.2.1, 10B.3.1, 10B.3.2)

### INDICATOR: DURABILITY

#### SUB-INDICATOR

- 11A. Programmes ensure the development of durable and sustainable conservation activities and plans, and provision of support through livelihood programmes and other resources, with the participation of local people, CFUGs and marginalized groups. (FGG, RPC, NHP, RPN)

#### VERIFIER

- 11A.1. Evidence exists of long-term planning and support, network establishment in the forestry sectors, and coordination and collaboration with formal and informal institution to ensure the sustainability of the programme. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPCP & RPN), (From RPAP).(E-P-PB-OP-073-Page 6,7) (E-T-S-OP-074-Page-27) (E-I-D-OP-073 Page-1),(E-P-HS-OP-075-Sub chapter-2.1) (E-P-Su-OP-069-Page-6) (E-T-T-OP-077-Page-10) (E-I-D-OP-073-sub chapter-1.3) (W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-10) (E-P-SD-075-chapter-2)(From CFOP)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 11A.1.1. Such Network has been created and documented. (Cho, Sid, Mab)
- 11A.1.2. Some kind of agreements done with the division Forest Office and other bodies including RPN. (Cho, Sid, Bad)

#### VERIFIER

- 11A.2. Alternative to forest resources is available to local communities to substitute their demand for forest products. (L)(Added to A10a.1)

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 11A.2.1. Rice, wheat straw, maize stalks and potato leaves are available as some fodder from agriculture residue. (Sid, Bad, Mah)
- 11A.2.2. Fodder plantation available in the private land. (Cho, Mab, Lal)

#### VERIFIER

- 11A.3. Evidence exists that the problems of women, ethnic communities, Dalit, forest dependent communities, and under-privileged and marginalized communities are identified and addressed through alternative livelihood programmes, forest-based microenterprise, and employment generation programmes, including ecotourism. (N, P, D, L).

#### MEANS OF VERIFICATION

- 11A.3.1. Homestay training, registration and operation support given to the women in the CFUG. (Mah, Cho)
- 11A.3.2. NGO supporting giving training for making incense and potato chips as the place is remote and people very poor. (Nad)
- 11A.3.3. Solar distribution to the disadvantaged groups. (Cho, Lal, Bad)
- 11A.3.4. Ecotourism support. (Hil, Cho, Nad)

11A.3.5. Improved herding management. (Cho, Mab, Lal)

11A.3.6. Improved cooking stove. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Mah)

**VERIFIER**

11A.4. Evidence of bamboo (native and palatable spp.) being planted in identified Red Panda habitat patches and prohibition of collection of bamboo and bamboo shoots. (NHP, RPCP) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) (W-K-H-077-OP-53)(L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.4.1. Some bamboo has been planted in the Red Panda habitat area which has been mentioned in OP, documented with minute of CFUG and Notice. (Cho, Mab, Lal)

**VERIFIER**

11A.5 Evidence of holistic approach of the Red Pandas conservation working plan being formulated that include research and monitoring, education and awareness, habitat management, and sustainable livelihood programme. (FGG, RPN, RPCP)(W-K-H- 077-OP-53) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-11) (N, P, D, L) (From CFOP and RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.5.1. Has been mentioned in operational plan of CFUG. (Cho, Mab, Lal)

**VERIFIER**

11A.6. Evidence of local government incorporating biodiversity conservation in their local school level curriculum. (FGG, NHP, RPCP, RPN)(Page 18)(D, L)(From RPAP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.6.1. The school has a Red Panda book and the curriculum also includes the topic of Red Panda. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)

11A.6.2. Diversity subject now added in school curriculum. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)

**VERIFIER**

11A.7. Evidence of CFUG's OP giving high conservation priority to the Red Panda within their jurisdiction.

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.7.1. Separate section on Red Panda conservation is being added in the OP of the CFUG document. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

**VERIFIER**

11A.8. Reference to and implementation of block division and rotational forest management in the operational

plan. (FGG, NHP) (E-I-D-OP-073 Page-5) (E-T-T-OP-077-Page-12)(E-P-SD-075-chapter-2)(L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.8.1.Implementation of block division and rotational forest management are both in the operational plan. (Sid, Mah, Bad, Nad)

**VERIFIER**

11A.9. Evidence of enhanced transboundary cooperation with India and China and organized the transboundary level meeting with them (at the local and federal level). (FGG, NHP, RPCP)(From RPAP Page 21, 31)(I, N)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11A.9.1. Transboundary cooperation and meeting with India and China held and documented. (Na)

**SUB-INDICATOR**

11B. Governance training is provided to local stakeholders.

**VERIFIER**

11B.1 Enhanced capability and institutional arrangements exist for monitoring and evaluation. (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP, RPC, RPCP, CFOP)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11B.1.1. Provided training on monitoring and evaluation. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad)

**VERIFIER**

11B.2. Local stakeholders are educated regarding forest governance and conservation. (D, L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11B.2.1. To make the group educated, there has been work to train, put up hoarding boards and create public awareness. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad)

**SUB-INDICATOR**

A11c. Programmes include climate change adaptation and mitigation.

**VERIFIER**

11C.1. Evidence of Red Panda population and habitat under threat due to climate change impact identified, and climate change adaptation and mitigation plans are prepared. (RPCP, RPN)(From RPAP Page 29) (N, P, D, L) (FGG, NHP) (W-R-KJ-OP-077-Page-51) (E-P-HS-OP-075-Subchapter-9.9)(E-P-Su-OP-069-Page-18)(E-T-T-OP-077-Page-54) (E-I-D-OP-073-Chapter-10) (W-R-KA-OP-078-Page-36)(E-P-SD-075-chapter-9)(D, L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

11C.1.1. Some awareness trainings given by the concerned organizations. (Cho, Hil, Mab)

11C.1.2. Have some awareness so have dug some Recharge Pond. (Hil, Sid)

**VERIFIER**

11C.2. Evidence that the status of carbon reserves is recorded, and carbon stocks are inventoried. (FG) (E-P-HS-OP-075-Sub chapter 9.9)(L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

NA

**VERIFIER**

11C.3. Evidence of arrangements being made to take advantage of carbon reserves as per the agreement between the Government of Nepal and international treaties. (FG, RPN)(E-P-HS-OP-075-Sub chapter 9.9)(I, N)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

NA

**VERIFIER**

11C.4. Evidence of the establishment of climate monitoring plots for long-term monitoring. (NHP, RPCP)(L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

NA

**VERIFIER**

11C.5. Evidence of the identification of the impacts on Red Panda populations and habitats due to climate change. (RPCP, RPN)(From RPAP Page 29)(N, P, D, L)

**MEANS OF VERIFICATION**

NA

**PRACTICES**

■ Network has been created and documented but is not active. (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah)(11A.1.1)

■ Some kind of agreement has been done with the Division Forest Office and other bodies including RPN. (Cho, Sid, Nad) (11A.1.2)

■ Homestay training, registration, and operation support are given to the women in the CFUG. (Cho, Sid)(11A.3.1)

■ Some NGOs have been supporting giving training for making incense and potato chips as the place is remote and people are very poor. (Nad)(11A.3.2)

■ Solar distribution is done to disadvantaged groups. (Cho, Sid) (11A.3.3)

■ Ecotourism support is being provided as per suitability. (Cho, Hil, Mah)(11A.3.4)

■ Improved herding management is performed. (Cho, Mab, Lal) (11A.3.5)

■ Improved cooking stove has been distributed. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Mah)(11A.3.6)

■ School material and book on Red Panda is provided and also kept as school curriculum in some. (Cho, Mab, Sid, Bad) (11A.6.1, 11A.6.2, 11A.7.1)

■ Recently there has been the appearance of big caterpillar in the CFUG which consumes all the bark of the tree. (Bad) (11C.5.1)

■ Rice, wheat straw, maize stalks, and potato leaves are being used as fodder from agriculture residue. (Sid, Bad)(11A.2.1)

■ Fodder is being planted on Private land. (Cho, Mab, Lal) (11A.2.2)

■ Tree plantations are being practiced on Private land. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal)(11A.2.3)

■ Some bamboo has been planted in the Red Panda habitat area. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad)(11A.4.1)

■ They are written in the operational plan of CFUG (Cho, Hil, Mab, Lal, Sid, Mah, Bad)(11A.8.1)(11A.5.1)

■ Implementation of block division and rotational forest management are both in practice. (Sid, Nad)(11A.8.2)

■ Training has been conducted. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad) (11B.2.1, 11B.1.1)

■ Awareness is being raised through discussions during meetings and hoarding boards. (Cho, Hil, Mab, Sid, Bad, Nad) (11B.2.2, 11C.1.1)

■ Recharge pond has been built for conservation. (Hil, Sid) (1C.1.2)

**VERIFICATION METHODS**

■ Operational plan and constitution of CFUG (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah)(11A.1.2, 11A.1.1, 11A.7.1, 11A.9.1, 11A.8.1, 11c.1.1)

■ Minute of CFUG with attendance (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad,

Mah) (11A.1.2, 11A.1.1, 11A.3.1, 11A.3.2, 11A.3.3, 11A.3.4, 11A.3.5, 11A.3.6, 11A.7.1, 11A.9.1, 11C.5.1, 11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3, 11A.4.1, 11A.5.1, 11A.8.2, 11B.1.1, 11B.2.1)

- Agreement record (Cho, Hil, Sid, Nad, Mah)(11A.1.2, 11A.1.1)
- Homestay registration certificate (Cho, Mah)(11A.3.1)
- Invitation letter (Cho, Sid, Bad, Nad,)(11A.3.1)
- Recommendation letter (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah) (11A.3.1, 11A.3.2, 11A.3.3, 11A.3.4, 11A.3.5, 11A.3.6)
- Photo/ video (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah) (11A.3.1, 11A.3.2, 11A.3.3, 11A.3.4, 11A.3.5, 11A.3.6, 11A.6.1, 11A.6.2, 11A.9.1, 11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Support letter (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah) (11A.3.2, 11A.3.3, 11A.3.4, 11A.3.5, 11A.3.6)
- Solar distribution receipt record with the CFUG (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid)(11A.3.3)
- School material and book on Red Panda (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah)(11A.6.1, 11A.6.2)
- Report (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad)(11A.6.1, 11A.6.2)
- Receipt (Cho, Mab, Hil, Mah)(11A.6.1, 11A.6.2)
- The appearance of new species of biota in the CFUG (Mah) (11C.5.1)
- Copy of record from concerned NGO (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah) (11A.9.1, 11C.5.1, 11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3, 11B.1.1, 11C.1.2)
- Residues in the field (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Mah)(11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Promoter certificate (Cho, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah)(11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Tree plantation in the private land (Cho, Mab, Hil, Mah)(11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Demand Letter (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah) (11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Agreement paper (Cho, Mab, Hil, Sid, Bad, Nad, Mah)(11A.2.1, 11A.2.2, 11A.2.3)
- Notice (Cho, Sid, Nad,)(11A.4.1)
- Recharge Pond (Cho, Hil, Sid)(11C.1.1)

