

# Ecology Learning Expedition

At Kathmandu, Nepal during November 17-21, 2010

## REPORT

The GLOBE Regional Office for Asia-Pacific organized an **Ecology Learning Expedition at Kathmandu, Nepal during November 17-21, 2010.**

In this program, students and teachers from the GLOBE schools along with scientists from India and Nepal participate. **Mr. Vinod Shrestha, the GLOBE Country Coordinator for Nepal** had coordinated the activities of the expedition. Student, teacher, scientist and academicians from India were lead by **Dr. Desh Bandhu, Regional Director, GLOBE Regional Office for Asia-Pacific.**



Following activities were organized during the expedition

### 1. Meeting of students, teachers, scientists and academicians with GLOBE Nepal

The participants visited the office of GLOBE Nepal. Formal meeting was organized in the conference room of the GLOBE Nepal in which Mr. Binod Shrestha, GLOBE Country Coordinator for Nepal explained about the activities of the Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) which is implementing GLOBE program in Nepal. The ECCA is promoting GLOBE program by incorporating GLOBE activities in other projects which are being implemented by ECCA. He explained about the activities of ECCA in schools and setting up of nature club in schools was one of the major focused activities of ECCA in Schools. Energy conservation, paper recycling, water quality monitoring etc are the projects implemented by GLOBE Nepal



Mr. Vinod Shrestha is explaining about GLOBE activities in Nepal

After the formal presentation, the discussion session was held. The students and scientists took active part in this session. The issues such as climate change, biodiversity and water conservation were discussed.



Dr. Desh Bandhu Presenting T-shirts to GLOBE Nepal Staffs



Indian Participants in a meeting at GLOBE Nepal Office

## 2. Visiting a GLOBE School (already visited by NASA director) of Kathmandu, Nepal

All the participants visited a GLOBE school. The name of the School is “Yashodhara Bauddha madhyamik Vidyalaya”. The school was established during 1956 AD and is situated at Thaina, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal. The **NASA chief Administrator Mr.Charles F. Bolden visited this school**. The students and teachers of this school are doing very innovative activities relating to environment and natural resource. Their ideas need to be replicated in different part of the world.

All participants reached at the school at 1.30 PM. The students and teachers of this school welcomed participants. The principal and teachers of the school explained briefly about the history and background of the school. The students made a presentation regarding the environmental activities they are doing in their school. They explained in detail about the **NATURE CLUB** and innovative



Participants of this visit

**WATER CLASS ROOM** established in their school campus. The ideas presented by the students from GLOBE school of Kathmandu, Nepal was very impressive and everybody appreciated ECCA for guiding schools in Nepal for doing such type of Innovative activities. The water Class Room was observed as the most interesting and very informative which need to be replicated.

Following the presentation made by the local GLOBE school students, Students and teachers from an Indian GLOBE School made their presentation regarding their GLOBE and environment related activities/ projects going on in their school. The name of the Indian GLOBE School is **Ahicon International School**. **Dr. Freilich, Director, Earth Science Division of NASA has also visited this school during August 6, 2010.**



Student from GLOBE school, Nepal are making presentation



Student from GLOBE school, India are making presentation



Display of Educational Materials in the School

### Project presentation and sharing of ideas (Students and teachers from GLOBE Nepal and GLOBE India)

**WATER CLASSROOM:** This is a unique example where the learner is able to acquire and apply knowledge and understanding of water and sanitation issues. This center provide opportunity of exposing students both practical and experimental experience. One can see the following in a water classroom.

The water classroom consists of an aquarium, artificial pond ecosystem, basic water quality parameters and its testing, aquatic species, distillation process, Electrolysis, Groud water model, hydrometer, hydropower model, hygrometer, rain gauge, reading and display corner, water conservation at home, water cycle, water displacement method, water lense, weather station, water clock, WATA chlorinator etc. the photographs of the water classroom are given below;



Pond ecosystem in Water Classroom



Students and teachers inside water classroom



Preserved aquatic animals inside water classroom



Presentation of Water Cycle in Water Classroom



Water Music in Water Classroom



Water lens in Water Classroom



**Left:** Principal offering a memento to Dr. Desh Bandhu, Regional Director, GLOBE Regional Office for Asia Pacific

**Right:** Group photograph of Indian and Nepali participants participated in the school visit and its activities.

### 3. Ecology learning at the Godavari biodiversity hot spot of Nepal

The students and teachers visited Godavari Biodiversity Park which is set up by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is very rich in biodiversity. Students, teachers, scientists and academicians were provided with an opportunity to study the ecosystems inside the Biodiversity Park. A guide was there with the team who provided the necessary information regarding the plants of the park and other environmental activities going on inside it. It was an exciting opportunity for students to study the ecosystem related activities with the help of their teacher and the local guide. The students were shown videos on the activities of ICIMOD and climate change



The Ecology learning expedition was unique opportunity for the students and teachers from the region to learn from the experiences of each other. The visit promoted the exchange of information and experiences on GLOBE activities in the region.



**Ecological observations at Biodiversity hotspot of Godavari, Kathmandu, Nepal**