

Chapter 6

An Action Plan (Project Framework) for Fairy Meadows

Approach and Nature of the Linkages

For purposes of operationalising the notion of carrying capacity, tourism interventions are generally classified into four broad types. These are aimed at preserving and improving natural capital (forests and biodiversity), socioeconomic benefits (maximum linkages, minimum leakages), cultural values, and infrastructural and management efficiency (quality of tourism services). The first three types are usually referred to as supply side interventions, while the last addresses demand side concerns. Ideally, such interventions are aimed at poverty alleviation, community development, and conserving the fragile mountain environment or, alternatively stated, towards meeting the objectives of intra-generational and inter-generational equity. Maximisation of visitor satisfaction is also a key objective.

The evident scope for tourism in Raikot Valley, and its clearly established linkages with the community, mean that there is an urgent need to streamline its modalities so that MTD and MCD can be sustainably achieved. But, as the analysis in the previous section indicated, there is an added dimension or, alternatively, a point of departure, which suggests that tourism-related initiatives need to be accompanied by more generic and broad-based interventions. These should aimed at: a) reversing environmental degradation; b) redressing socioeconomic imbalances; and c) thereby creating the attitudinal shifts necessary for sustainable tourism as well as for overall mountain development.

Negative Linkages

The baseline data and analysis of the sociopolitical dynamics in Raikot Valley indicate that both MTD and MCD are constrained by powerful outside forces. These forces constitute a looming threat to the valley's natural resources, have created a vicious cycle of dependence, and jeopardize long-term social and economic development prospects. In other words, destabilisation of the valley's carrying capacity has become a very real concern.

This dependence is engendered by the following reasons.

- The contractor has full control over the main communication link with the valley, i.e., the access road, which only he has the financial resources to maintain. This road is a vital lifeline for the community, as it facilitates communications and movement of essential supplies and equipment. The condition of this road also determines the volume of tourist traffic and related economic and employment benefits for the community.
- The community's inability to harvest its forest wealth. This exposes it to outside exploitation and fosters indifference towards long-term environmental concerns. Under these circumstances, critical behavioural changes, embodied in participatory or collective action, become difficult.
- The impoverished condition of the community leaves it vulnerable to private developers whose efforts at promoting tourism create environmental imbalances and are of marginal value to the population. Their characteristic get-rich-quick mentality is evident in poor architectural practices, in minimum linkages and maximum income leakages, pollution and pressure on sinks, and socially-disruptive behaviour.
- The traditional apathy of the government towards the socioeconomic aspirations of the community leave it vulnerable to mercenary elements from outside. Indeed, the functional line departments are also prone to colluding with these elements with a view to financial gains.

From the point of view of environmental sustainability, these elements constitute negative linkages, even though they may generate short-term economic benefits. Their adverse impacts are: a) destruction of forests; b) destabilisation of mountain slopes above the access road through massive use of dynamite during road construction and repairs which lead to further degradation; c) overburdening of sinks through poor sanitation practices; and d) creation of discord amongst the community through financial inducements which foster an excessively materialist outlook, to the detriment of both the environment and tourists.

Positive Linkages

On the present evidence, neither the activities of the local community nor those of tourists yet pose a threat to the sustainability of the valley's natural, economic, or cultural assets — in other words, to its carrying capacity. These activities, both direct and interactive, are of the following nature.

- The marginalised population ekes out a bare existence from the mountains, through terrace agriculture, livestock grazing, and the dual use of forest wood, both for house construction and fuel. The size of the population relative to its resource base

limits the extent to which it can use these resources without causing lasting environmental damage.

- The tourist universe is presently small and restricted to a particular type of person; one who welcomes a certain degree of physical hardship and is alert to environmental issues as well as to the cultural sensitivities of the people.
- Tourists generate income-generating and employment opportunities, thus diversifying income sources and reducing pressure on the land.
- Induced infrastructural investments, such as camping facilities, are basic and client appropriate. Modifications required are incremental rather than structural — for instance, more efficient disposal of sewerage and excreta.
- Over the long term, the income potential stemming from continued tourist inflows can be expected to create greater awareness about and concern with preserving the mountain environment in order to sustain and increase these inflows.

Such synergisms create the basis for sustainable mountain development, which remain within the bounds of the valley's carrying capacity and, in time, can improve upon it as well.

A critical precondition for developing a sustainable approach to MCD and MTD entails measures aimed to sever the contractor's stranglehold over the community. It is expected that he would resist such efforts — as would the Forest Department, which would have to forego legal revenues as well as covert payments. In addition, the required measures would have significant financial implications. Large outlays, rooted in a politically difficult context, are generally unattractive candidates for government or donor support. However, they go to the crux of the problem and, hence, cannot be avoided. Sectoral interventions to strengthen the community's socioeconomic base constitute another aspect of the same process. This will enable it to resist financial inducements and environmental encroachments.

Both types of interventions are aimed at stabilising the valley's carrying capacity. Once this is achieved, the identified positive linkages can be reinforced through tourism-oriented interventions. Essentially, the complexity of problems in Raikot Valley requires a comprehensive area development approach in which tourism initiatives can be embedded.

Investment Prerequisites for Sustainable Mountain Tourism Development

Certain preconditions need to be met before the goal and objectives of sustainable mountain tourism can be achieved. These preconditions can be divided into two related thrusts, both for restoring the carrying capacity to pre-damage levels. The first thrust attempts to rehabilitate degraded areas (forests, slopes) through curative measures.

The second thrust focusses on strengthening the community's socioeconomic base with a view to minimising future transgressions – this can also be construed as prevention, inasmuch as it would make it difficult for outside entities to foster social discord by exploiting poverty. In other words, MCD should be achieved directly, rather than through the instrumentality of MTD.

However, activities encompassed in these thrusts should not be financed unconditionally. This will merely foster a passive receiving mentality within the community, leading to subsequent neglect of environmental, social, and physical infrastructure, as is so often the case with government schemes. Certain prior agreements have to be negotiated with the community, e.g., eliciting contributions (labour, in kind) during the construction phase and, subsequently, commitments to maintain and charge for the services rendered by the completed project. The process is difficult, involving continuous interaction with the community. But, the end result has an enduring sense of ownership, and this is the key to sustainability.

Operationalisation of the two thrusts leads into the Tourism Action Plan which includes a set of tourism interventions (MTD) aimed at preserving and increasing carrying capacity. The measures strive to maximise forward and backward linkages with the community, to make environmental initiatives endogenous, create environmental awareness, and improve benefits for tourists.

Restoration of Carrying Capacity

Thrust 1: Rehabilitation of Environment

Road Repairs

Lasting repairs are needed on the access road. This means biological and engineering control measures — checkdams, protection walls, drainage, and planting of fast-growing grasses and shrubs on degraded mountain slopes. The appropriate technologies could be readily supplied by institutions such as ICIMOD. Once the road is stabilised, subsequent repairs and maintenance should be carried out by the community, with a view to acquiring eventual ownership.

Road reconstruction should focus on the 17-kilometre stretch from Raikot to Jhel. While this road was initially constructed up to Fairy Meadows, subsequent deterioration of this last portion has proved fortunate from a sustainability perspective. The community should be persuaded to resist repairs on this portion of the road in order to maintain the mountain trekking character of tourism in the valley. Specifically, this will prevent private developer inroads into Fairy Meadows, which commands a breath-taking view of Nanga Parbat and is a potential site for extensive construction. Experiences in other mountain areas of Pakistan (Kalam, Naran, Skardu) have shown that this particular form of construction is inseparable from income and employment benefits accruing to outsiders as well as with unacceptably high levels of pollution,

Community Park

Block 4 should be converted into a community park. The following policy, environmental, and management measures are proposed.

- A process of lobbying and advocacy should be to reinforce the official ban on cutting trees.
- A compensation mechanism should be instituted to ensure that payments to the community (for the contracted income foregone) are linked with a commitment to protect the forests. The payments should be jointly authorised and disbursed by the project, the area administration, the Forest Department, and the community representatives.
- Decaying timber and debris should be removed under a contractual arrangement to permit regeneration.
- The community would — based on a written contract — retain its rights to timber for house construction and fuelwood, and periodic controlled harvests would be allowed under community supervision and at royalty rates determined by them.
- Selected community members would be trained in forest management techniques; their salaries would be funded by the project for an initial period but, eventually shifted to the community.
- Fast-disappearing indicator species, such as the markhor, ibex, 'ram chakor' and the pheasant, would be reintroduced into the community park. Also, mushrooms, medicinal plants, and other exotic fauna would be grown on the trial basis.

This is probably the most difficult, yet extremely necessary action, with far-reaching environmental and social implications. Initial dialogue with the community on the subject has elicited negative reactions. The community is fearful that it would lead to appropriation of their forests. In order to allay such concerns, the implementation modalities should be clearly spelled out to them, a portion of the funds should be disbursed up front, and, preferably, the project should be financed by the donor community rather than the government. Essentially, the sensitivity of the problem requires a 'hands off' approach with the government restricting itself to a monitoring role.

Thrust 2: Socioeconomic Development

Physical Infrastructure

Irrigation Channels: Two of the three main irrigation channels in Raikot Valley need to be rehabilitated. The first channel feeding Tato Village and its surrounding fields was

originally sourced in a clear water spring. Over time, this source has been blocked, forcing a diversion from the sand-laden Tato Nala. The channel is scoured periodically, and the sand deposited in the fields leads to depletion in fertility. The second channel irrigates the fertile plateau, known as Phari, above Tato Village. This plateau has considerable horticultural potential. From its source in a deep gorge, the channel cuts across highly erosion prone slopes, with landslides creating frequent blockages. While the villagers repair the damage, a lasting solution has to be found to the problem – it could possibly be protected with steel-reinforced concrete pipes across the erosion-prone stretches.

Social Infrastructure

School Improvements: The primary school needs basic repairs and should be expanded to accommodate more students. In addition, a new local teacher needs to be hired to lower the student-teacher ratio and reduce the subject load on the existing teacher. Quality improvements entail teacher training and a supply of educational materials (training aids, books, stationery, etc).

School improvements should be undertaken in consultation with the community in the expectation that it will contribute land and labour for rehabilitation and expansion and, eventually, pay the salary of the local teacher. Financial solvency requires fees to be charged; experience has shown that these will be paid if school performance improves.

Expansion of Dispensary: The limited capabilities of the existing dispensary should be expanded to deal with: one, maternity and child health care issues and, two, the prevalent diseases in the area such as typhoid, pneumonia, and gastric problems. A local female medical attendant needs to be hired for mother and child health care services; for other medical services, the skills of the local dispenser should be upgraded. An initial stock of equipment, medicine, and essential supplies should also be ensured. These can be replenished via user charges, which will be acceptable as villagers presently have to walk long distances to obtain treatment and medicines.

The innovative, community-based approaches of the Social Action Programme (SAP) can serve as a useful guide to expanding and upgrading social service facilities in Raikot Valley. In addition, SAP could also be a possible funding source.

Sectoral Interventions

Agricultural Research and Extension: Pakistan has ceased to be self-sufficient in potatoes, with imports from India averaging an annual 200,000 tons over the last two years. Part of the problem stems from the growing incidence of pest and virus infestations. Imported seeds from Holland, planted in spring in the plains, are highly prone to virus attacks which reduce seed supplies for the main autumn crop. The government has attempted to make up the deficit through seed multiplication in greenhouses and by

ensuring seed supplies from mountain crops grown in summer in the Hunza, Kaghan, and Swat valleys.

Potatoes are both intercultivated and solo cropped in Raikot Valley, which enjoys virus-free growing conditions. Agronomic trials should be conducted on-farm and on demonstration plots to prove the crop's commercial viability as a seed source. Existing pit storage practices, which result in frequent spoilage, also need to be improved. Similar trials should be attempted with peas as a high-priced, off-season vegetable.

While horticulture is not a traditional practice, weather conditions suggest it has potential, as is evident from the natural stands of apricot, peach, fig, walnut, and pomegranate trees. In addition, the potential for yield increases in traditional crops such as wheat, maize, and barley, and this should be explored through varietal and agronomic trials.

Tourism Action Plan

Goals and Objectives

The goal of tourism asset development is preservation and improvement of carrying capacity. Achievement of investment preconditions will contribute towards this goal, although the primary concern is with environmental and social reconstruction. This investment process will generate credibility in and receptiveness to tourism initiatives.

The objectives of tourism asset development are:

- stability of the biophysical environment,
- increase in socioeconomic benefits,
- poverty alleviation and community development,
- retention of cultural values, and
- maximisation of visitor satisfaction.

These objectives satisfy the criteria of sustainable MTD.

Identification of Linkages and Impacts

As indicated earlier, tourism in its present form has contributed substantially to these objectives. In the first place, the environmental impact assessment (EIA) suggests that the present volume of tourists could easily be trebled before any adverse economic, environmental, or cultural impacts become apparent. The actual and potential benefits from tourism are substantial and tend to accrue largely to the community. These benefits are derived from:

- increased income and employment from local services' provision – porters, guides, pack animals, jeep transport, camping facilities, provision shops, and roadside stalls;
- marketing of foodstuffs - grain, meat (livestock and chickens), dairy products, vegetables, and fruit tourists; and
- sale of local handicrafts, precious stones, local medicinal herbs, and other artifacts.

In addition, such benefits represent economic options which could substitute for traditional land-use practices (crop cultivation, livestock grazing) when competition for finite land resources increases, as a result of population growth and an escalating tourist inflow.

Also, the visitor community has played the role of advocacy by exposing and publicising undesirable forestry practices in the area. This has already elicited administrative responses and could serve as a useful entry point for subsequent community and environmentally friendly policy initiatives.

While tourism tends to create benign linkages on the whole, some potential adverse effects stemming from the growth of indigenous and transient populations are a source of concern and also need to be addressed in the Action Plan. These are: a) growing demand for fuelwood; b) increasing pressure on sinks; c) littering on trails and tracks; and d) preservation of natural resources against growing demand for their use for agricultural and grazing purposes.

The actual and anticipated impacts stemming from the identified linkages are: a) improved income distribution and overall poverty alleviation; b) improved nutrition; and c) conspicuous consumption, rooted in cultural preferences for kalashnikovs and second marriages.

Main Elements of the Action Plan

The Action Plan will focus on measures which:

- reinforce beneficial linkages with the community and the environment;
- improve service responses to tourist needs;
- develop new tourism opportunities;
- pre-empt unsustainable forms of tourism; and
- anticipate and cater for future visitor expansion and local population growth.

Proposed Measures

Attraction: Development of Tourist Assets:

In addition to the main trekking trail from Jhel to Beyal Camp, there are several lesser-known tracks criss-crossing the upper valley reaches which facilitate inter-village communication and provide access to forestry staff and loggers. The trail from Fairy Meadows to Beyal Camp and these uncharted tracks need to be widened and posted with signs displaying environmental messages along with directions. Additionally, anti-erosion measures should be taken at exposed places and simple log bridges should be constructed across streams. For the more adventurous, there are a number of mountain tracks spanning the semi-circular chain of mountains at the head of the valley. These also need to be posted with directional signs at the base and at periodic intervals.

Several thermal springs are found at the base of the Phari plateau behind Tato Village, and these constitute potential tourist sites. Their development entails: a) marking and improvement of the track leading up to the site from the main access road; b) diversion of a cold water channel to the springs; c) construction of concrete enclosures around the springs; and d) construction of segregated bath houses for women; and e) community-based arrangements for user charges and distribution of revenues.

By the same token, certain forms of asset development represent non-sustainable forms of tourism and should be prevented. In particular, a rich entrepreneur proposes to construct an elaborate resort in Fairy Meadows and to rehabilitate the access road leading up to it from Jhel. This activity would produce undesirable consequences such as site-inappropriate architecture, diversification of the tourist profile to include elements less sensitive to the environment and to local culture, income leakages, employment for non-valley residents, pressure on sources and sinks through demand for fuel and as a result of poor sewerage and sanitation practices, and pollution caused by littering and waste disposal.

The development of the community park, while not being specifically envisaged as a tourism intervention, will promote positive synergies and outcomes conducive to increasing the valley's tourist appeal.

Services: Expansion of Facilities and Quality Improvements

Service facilities catering to tourist needs are the main camping facility (Raikot Serai) in Fairy Meadows, a smaller version of this facility in the meadows below Beyal Camp, and a camping site at Tato. Raikot Serai, in its generic sense, is the model to replicate for aspiring competitors in Beyal and Tato. However, the quality of its services is still deficient in many respects. The key improvements needed are as follow.

- *Standardisation of Rates:* There is an absence of transparency in the prices and rentals charged for food and tents. Foreigners are generally charged more than locals, but intra-client variations are also common, depending on the manager's whims and preferences, and this creates resentment. The problem should be addressed by posting prices — and conforming to standardised rates.
- *Poor Quality Service :* The food provided to tourists is of variable quality and the hygiene of kitchens and catering is extremely poor. Tourists are prepared to pay a high price for food, provided it is clean, appetizing, and nutritious. Training of kitchen and catering staff in the essentials of cooking and cleanliness is needed.
- *Sanitation and Sewerage:* Toilet facilities are limited and drainage, garbage, and excreta are disposed of above ground. Additional toilets need to be constructed and excreta diverted into underground septic tanks.
- *Camping Facilities:* Camping facilities are restricted to tents, and these can become a problem during the early and late season when weather conditions are unpredictable. Wood cabins and concrete platforms for tents should be constructed to cater for inclement weather as well as to give tourists a choice.
- *Logistics and Guidance for Tourists:* The camping sites should furnish documented and verbal information on tourist attractions and local area conditions. In addition, guides and porters should be available when needed.

There are retail and roadside tea stalls catering for both tourists and locals in Raikot, Jhel, and Fairy Meadows. The primary concerns with respect to the tea stalls are price, quality, and cleanliness. In addition to stocking up with basic provisions, the retail shops need to diversify into locally produced handicrafts, gem stones, and other artifacts likely to appeal to the tourist population.

Transport

The provision of transport and portage needs to be better organised. Tourists are vulnerable to excessive and discriminatory charges. While there are criteria that determine rates for porters, guides, pack animals, and jeeps, such criteria tend to be informal and subject to loose interpretation. This becomes a source of both annoyance and confusion. Transparency requires that these rates be clearly indicated, uniformly charged, and consistently applied. Preying upon tourist ignorance may yield short-term dividends; in the long run it will create a generalised negative image of the valley.

The institutional arrangements for such service provision are basically sound and equitable. Additionally, jeep drivers, guides, and porters should be trained in interactive skills, restrictions on weight loads for porters and animals should be mandated and

information provided for dissemination to tourists. The intention is to create an *esprit de corps*, combining professional pride and hierarchy of service in equal measure.

Information and Promotion

A measure of coordination already exists between the local entrepreneur-manager of the camping facility and down-country travel agents, resulting in increased business turnover, to their mutual advantage. Other measures that need to be taken are advertising and the production of travel information (maps, magazines, articles, guidebooks, videos etc). The objective is to provide visitors with a greater understanding of places and activities. Pre-travel information is as important as *en route* and *in situ* information. This needs to be supplemented with periodic on-the-spot surveys to identify tourist perceptions and needs, so as to be in a better position to respond to them. Finally, logos, signs, posters, and informational material focussing on environmental messages, both for tourists and for the local community, need to be prepared.

Backward and Forward Linkages

The backward linkages stemming from tourism are already well established and few income and employment leakages are in evidence. The various measures suggested above are designed to strengthen these linkages. The non-tourism initiatives (investment prerequisites) are aimed at both the economic and social empowerment of the community.

Both tourism and non-tourism interventions have a forward looking aspect. MTD substitutes for traditional, non-sustainable land-use practices, thus helping to preserve and protect the community's natural resource base as population pressure on the land increases. In addition, it facilitates accommodation of growing tourist inflows. Non-tourism interventions, specifically aimed at increasing productivity and crop diversity, constitute preventive steps to avert land-use changes – in other words, conversion of forests to crop and grazing lands. Other environmental rehabilitation measures seek to minimise the influences of contractors and private developers, both highly detrimental to community interests

Identification of Training Needs

Human resource development has two aspects. First, it encompasses long-term improvements in literacy. The proposed school improvements are an essential part of this process. For women, the maternal and child health clinic could become the focal point for dissemination of training and messages regarding family planning, nutrition, and personal health care. The more specific training needs are identified as follow.

- Creation of environmental awareness and its linkages with tourism at the community level. This could be carried out *in situ*, through informal sessions and through

- language-appropriate and visually attractive media such as skits, songs, pictures, and drawings.
- Training for local entrepreneurs and managers catering to tourist needs. The training would cover issues such as construction, sanitation, nutrition, accounting, and so on.
- Training in forestry management: regeneration, protection, wildlife conservation, herbiculture, etc.
- Training in social organisation and programme implementation: participatory decision-making, group formation and structures, programme identification and implementation, collective savings, book-keeping, and accounting.
- Training for transport service providers, porters, and trekking and mountaineering guides: rate and weight standardisation, collective funds' management, etc.
- Hands on training, involving demonstration plots and on-farm experimental trials. These trials would be extensive, covering crop, seed and fodder varieties, horticulture, livestock management, and agronomy for improvement of yields.

Local-level Institutional Context

The formal, up front involvement of local communities across the proposed spectrum of interventions, AKRSP style, is clearly not feasible. As pointed out, the contractor and private developers pose a constant threat to collective action; in fact, the tensions and frictions created by them have strained community relations to a great extent. On the other hand, common needs continue to exist, calling for collective responses and actions. Confronted with indifference and exploitation by elected representatives, government departments, and private entrepreneurs, the community has begun to revert to its old self-help traditions. The emergence of various reconstituted, informal groups around forestry, irrigation, transport, and portage demonstrates that collective responses continue to exist.

Developing this potential is a challenging task. Commitment and credibility are two critical preconditions for establishing trust and eliciting the community's cooperation. The options have to be clearly presented, benefits demonstrated, and firm dates and schedules specified. This is important if the community is to be weaned away from its present divisive behaviour. The strategy calls for an initial focus on the road and on various socioeconomic interventions which, politically, are the least controversial. Once these initiatives are underway, they will create unifying impulses which can be harnessed for other follow-on non-tourism and tourism-related actions.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of both types of initiative hinges on the policy environment and enabling administrative measures, namely: a) repeal of regressive, anti-community forestry legislation; b) enactment of new policies focussing on sustainable tourism; c)

vigorous implementation of the ban on cutting trees; and d) local government initiatives promoting socioeconomic and sectoral development.

An important catalytic and direct role is envisaged for the Diامر Development Foundation. This NGO's capabilities need to be strengthened through: a) additional staff recruitment; b) training in project identification, planning, and implementation; c) training in office and management skills; and d) establishment of an endowment fund.

Financing and Its Implementation

Table 6 shows the financing details, prioritised implementation schedule, and proposed financing sources for the Action Plan. The Action Plan is essentially a project framework, providing guidelines and broadly identifying initiatives. The next step is to develop a project document with implementation details. The estimated cost for preparing this document is US \$20,000.

The envisaged financing sources for the Action Plan and project document are initially donors and the government. These investments are designed to create basic environmental and socioeconomic infrastructures. The tourism development measures will, at the outset, also need external infusions. Neither the beneficiaries nor the locally based entrepreneurs are in a position to make significant financial contributions, although considerable labour inputs can be expected. In time, however, once the infrastructure and support mechanisms are in place and participatory institutions established, external financing will be replaced by internal revenue generation, through user charges, fees and imposts, with a view to financial sustainability.

Monitoring Indicators

The Framework

The basic concepts, issues, and framework for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of tourism in the context of mountain community development have been investigated by ICIMOD.³ While the need for M&E is recognised, examples of M&E processes that were effectively able to provide objective feedback to the project planners and executors are practically non-existent. The wish list for data generally appears to be unlimited, and issues related to cost of data collection and trade-offs, with respect to the precision and need for the data, are seldom discussed.

In the context of this study, it should be noted that the discussion is limited to development of monitoring criteria that can provide insights into changes in HER, MCD, and MTD over time. At the outset, we have attempted to identify a number of qualitative milestones and key indicators with the following objective in mind:

3 Tourism for Mountain Community Development, Case Study Report on the Annapurna and Gorkha Regions of Nepal, Chapter 8, 'Monitoring Framework for Carrying Capacity of Mountain Tourism'

Table 6: Action Plan Financing and Schedule of Implementation

Activities	Finance		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
	Amount	Period					
NON-TOURISM							
1 Environment/Infrastructure Rehabilitation Road Rehabilitation	85,000	Two	██████████	██████████			
Community Park	700,000	Five	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████
2 Socioeconomic Development School Improvement	20,000	One	██████████				
Expansion of Dispensary	20,000	Two	██████████	██████████			
Ag. Research and Extension	60,000	Three	██████████		██████████		
3 Strengthening of Diaper Development Foundation	20,000	Two					
4 Transport, Cost Over-runs, Consultants	100,000						
Total Non-tourism (a)	1,005,000						
TOURISM							
1 Interventions Tourism Asset Development	20,000	Two	██████████	██████████			
Expansion of Facilities/Quality Improvement	20,000	Two	██████████	██████████			
Transport	10,000	One	██████████				
Information and Promotion	15,000	Three	██████████	██████████	██████████		
2 Training	20,000	Three	██████████	██████████	██████████		
3 Transport, Cost Over-runs Consultants, Trainers	50,000						
Total Tourism (b)	135,000						
GRAND TOTAL (a+b)	1,140,000						

- To provide a minimum set of parameters that can provide an insight into the changes taking place in the valley with respect to HER, MCD, and MTD.

Project specific criteria will have to be developed as a part of project proposals and plans that will hopefully be introduced as a result of this study.

Milestones

- *Economic Investments:* Government and donor expenditure — project and activity wise, developmental and non-developmental. Private sector investments from within the community.
- *Occupational Changes:* Observations on changes in income patterns, from agriculture, livestock, and other economic activities such as tourism.
- *Community Participation:* Projects and investments that involved community participation in planning, implementation, and operation. Description of nature and extent of participation.
- *Environmental Impacts:* Changes in the land-use patterns, with reference to area under forest, housing, grazing, agriculture, and commercial use (development of detailed land-use maps and yearly updating are recommended).
- *Gender Development:* Number of women involved in cash generating activities besides agriculture. Description of types of activities.
- *Policy:* Policy changes at the regional level and state and impact of advocacy, especially with reference to deforestation.

Basic-Data for Indicators

The indicators have been designed for operational feasibility and for selective rather than frequent monitoring.

- *Population:* Number of households and population for each of the settlements, Tato, Jhel, Punjadori, Beyal, Wittar, and Bezar.
- *Education:* Number of children, girls and boys, going to school at primary and middle levels.
- *Health:* Number of patients seen at the dispensary.
- *Tourism:* Number of tourists visiting; local and foreign. Number of tourism-related enterprises, including restaurants, shops, and campsites. Estimated income from tourism, for each enterprise.

- *Transport*: Number of jeeps operating jeep trips, further subdivided into tourism and non-tourism uses.
- *Guides and Porters*: Number of guides and porters and income generated.
- *Forests*: Total amount of timber extracted. Timber used for construction of tourist facilities and house construction. Use of fuelwood. Number of saplings planted.

Process Documentation

Two visits to Raikot Valley were carried out by the team members. The first visit in the last week of April 1996 provided an overview of the area, with regard to its physical features, land-use patterns, migratory habits of the population, physical and social infrastructure, and so on. First impressions were formed of the prevailing types of tourism, its environmental, cultural, and economic impacts on the local community, and supporting facilities. This overview was supplemented with published data on the diverse valley characteristics, compiled by the Pak-German Research Project (October 1995) under the overall coordination of the University of Tübingen, Germany.

At this stage, the experiences of the study adviser-cum-research assistant — who is also a resident of the valley and owner-manager of its main camping facility — were drawn upon. Both have a long and intimate acquaintance with valley conditions and are well versed in its political and social dynamics. Both advised against using a set-piece approach entailing attempts to collect community members for the purpose of conducting large formal group sessions. Instead, they suggested that, at the data collection stage, a rapid rural appraisal, combined with informal discussions with community members and representatives, would be more appropriate. This approach was followed for the second-round survey, carried out from July 10 to 15, 1996.

On-site visits provided information on the following:

- logging practices and the state of the forests;
- physical infrastructure: access road, irrigation channels, and water supply ;
- cropping and horticultural practices;
- livestock migration and grazing practices;
- practice and experience of tourism; and
- social infrastructure: school, dispensary.

Informal discussions were carried out with a cross-section of the resident as well as transient population, including community leaders, farmers and livestock owners, timber and road contractors and labourers, tourists, camping facility owners/managers, tour operators, porters, shopkeepers, students, jeep owners/drivers, paramedical staff, forest guards, religious representatives, etc.

The discussions were useful and informative. They provided basic information on ethnic and tribal characteristics, socioeconomic conditions, and cultural and religious practices. In addition, they provided insights into the tensions and conflicts arising from increased exposure to outside influences and opportunities in the light of their juxtaposition with the endemic state of poverty and in the context of tribal/family alignments.

The third round of the survey was carried out in the second week of September 1996. The earlier visits had established a degree of credibility within the community which allowed the team members to conduct focus group discussions, as well as carry out a household survey on the conditions of women. At these discussions, the aims and objectives of the study were spelled out in detail. The Action Plan, which has been tentatively prepared on the basis of the first two rounds of the survey, was finalised through a participatory and consultative process.

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