

PAKISTAN:
MANAGEMENT PLANNING FOR CKNP,
PLUSES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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CKNP-GENERAL ABOUT IT!

- **The Pakistani legislation supports 4 types of PAs- NP;WS;GR and CMAs; CKNP falls in one of the 4 protected categories**
- **Though created on papers, and even demarcated on ground, none has a comprehensive management plan or an implementation plan**
- **Created in 1993, and the biggest of the mountain parks in Pakistan, the CKNP passed through various attempts of management planning but none could reach its logical conclusion. The park is thus there without any approved plan since its creation**

- **This is the first time that the Government has approved, though provisionally yet, the first version of the management plan prepared by EvK2CNR**

CKNP-SPECIAL ABOUT IT!

- CKNP is a true representative of the Karakoram landscape- if you have see CKNP, you have seen the whole of this majestic mountain range

- Fortunately, most of the ecological characters of Karakoram are largely intact, and seen within the boundaries of CKNP.

The park is an important source of fresh water, tourism and recreation

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- **This is a living museum and a huge field laboratory with tremendous opportunities to generate knowledge on scientific and social issues**
- **The area is known for people with valuable indigenous knowledge that has to be preserved for the new generation to develop an understanding of their immediate environment and learn on how to cope with the negative influences of climate change**

- And last, but not the least is the natural look of its landscape, and the species that it hosts

(A few pictures of the area may give a brief idea about it)

















CKNP PLANNING PROCESS- MAJOR PLUSES

- **The adopted process has set a precedence for making socio-ecological research as a base for park management. This has not been a culture in the past**
- **All major decisions are being based on comprehensive consultations with local community that require first to have adequate social structures at village and valley levels. This is fundamental requirement in park management, especially in countries like ours.**

- **Certain development interventions are being carried out while planning for the park is still in process**
- **The plan is seeking approval of the concerned Government for an operational plan that will test some of its management indications/prescriptions on ground to validate and demonstrate the practicability of the management plan**

PLANNING FOR CKNP-CHALLENGES

- Rules of the park are different than realities on ground. If rules are followed, the entire process gets redundant; if realities are addressed, the park rules are violated.
- There is a big question whether to follow the statutory laws or customary laws? A statutory law is more concerned about the need of the park resources while a customary law is rather concerned about the needs of the people. To strike a balance between the two is rather tricky and pose a serious challenge to the process

- A management plan is of no use if there are no arrangements for its implementation; arrangements are possible if a proposal is floated for donor support; donors may consider a proposal if based on an approved plan with Government share determined and committed.

(The current situation indicates that the process may possibly take longer than expected with ultimate impacts on the future of the park)

- **There is no donor that may sponsor a park forever. The planning process has to explore options for the park to be largely independent of outside support. However, the concerned department has to be equally, if not more, active in exploring sustainability options. The next year or so may reveal a true picture of the future of the park in the context of its sustainability**

**PLANNING FOR CKNP-
SCOPE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR
CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH**



- **A solution to any of the challenges shall be equally helpful to several other mountain parks that have serious management gaps because of similar reasons**
- **Scientific research in the local institutions, till now, has mostly been of academic nature. However, CKNP has set a precedence for such research to be management oriented. Its replication in other parks shall greatly help in the generation of knowledge regarding conservation of Biodiversity**

• Research on glaciers, water and snow melt, being carried out in the CKNP, has tremendous potential for use in many other countries. The findings may thus help develop linkages between scientists of the region that has many more benefits for the international community than just a research program

• Planning for CKNP may find a way to promote sustainable tourism as source of income for park communities- a process that has high chances for replication in all parks of Pakistan

A BIRD IN HAND....

CKNP MP-IMMEDIATE CONTRIBUTION

1. Karakoram-Pamir Biosphere Reserve

- With increase in motivation for having more Biosphere Reserves in Pakistan, the M&B committee for Pakistan asked for having more Biosphere Reserves in Pakistan**
- Being host to a couple of NPs, Wildlife sanctuary, Game Reserves and community conservation areas, Rap of GB proposed to M&B committee to nominate most of the Karakoram and adjacent Pakistani Pamir, spread over about 28000km² area, as a Biosphere Reserve**

•The dossier for the proposed Biosphere Reserve, has gone to UNESCO on 30th of September, being the due date for such nominations

• The proposed Reserve, when designated formally, will include CKNP, KNP, a wildlife Sanctuary, a couple of Game Reserves, several community conservation areas and important connectivity corridors. The designation shall make it eligible for outside funding which is good for all protected areas, contained within the proposed biosphere reserve

•Once designated, the proposed M&B shall have the potential to be extended to China and Afghanistan for several organizations to work jointly, addressing issues of their concern, and ultimately managing the World's biggest Biosphere Reserve as an effective response to climate change and disasters

2. UNDP INITIATIVE

- UNDP-Pakistan has recently invited proposals from individual consultants to undertake a vulnerability assessment and mapping of the Tibetan Eco-region that include a major portion of the proposed Biosphere Reserve**
- The study may identify and bring several specialist groups and NGOs together to work jointly on a long term programme, aiming at protecting the entire Karakoram-Pamir from unsustainable development and degradation**

THE FUTURE

The future is in hands of the host Government, and their non-government collaborators

- **Active participation in promoting management and conservation of the CKNP, leading to the effective management of the Karakoram-Pamir Biosphere Reserve can make it not only the world's most favorite site for conservation, sustainable development and scientific research but can demonstrate it to be the most effective response to negative influences of climate change**
- **The opportunity could be lost if ignored or taken for granted**

THANK YOU

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