The training covers the following areas:

- Introduction and importance of NTFPs
- Species prioritization and selection techniques
- Analysis of NTFPs management threats and their root causes
- Concept of sustainable NTFPs management
  - Regeneration management
  - Sustainable harvesting and monitoring
  - NTFPs management
- Step by step approach to sustainable NTFPs management focusing on in-situ interventions
- Ex-situ management and domestication of species of commercial interest
- Related policy provisions
- Field works and site visits
- Design and development of NTFPs management plan
- Marketing of commercial products (including an introduction to certification)

Details of the training content are available upon request.

Costs are determined through mutual discussion between ANSAB and the clients according to the length, content and number of participants in the training. ANSAB’s overall objective is to expand natural resource based community enterprises in Nepal and, as such, it strives to keep costs as low as possible.

The training uses a combination of different methodologies, including classroom presentations, team work, learning games, case studies, site visits, simulations, group exercises and field work. It is delivered both in English and Nepali or in either of the two languages as per participants’ requirement.
BACKGROUND

Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) are important sources of livelihood and income for Nepal’s poor rural communities. Every year, no less than forty-two thousand tonnes of NTFPs with a trade value of 26.8 million US dollars are harvested throughout the country.

However, only 100 of the 700 medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs), 440 wild foods, 238 essential oils and 71 fibers are the object of this harvest, 20 of them constituting more than 80% of the total volume and commercial value. Studies on NTFPs management both at national and global levels conclude that this imbalance is not sustainable: very few species of commercial interest are highly exploited while other species are either underused or not explored at all.

The lack of adequate knowledge and skills on sustainable management and marketing among local communities and even among facilitators further aggravates this situation.

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INTENDED PARTICIPANTS

This training is mainly intended for:
- Training facilitators from governmental and non-governmental organizations
- Forest management groups, collectors and local level processors
- Planners and managers

More generally, however, this training can be useful for anyone interested in NTFP management.

TRAINERS

Established in 1992, the Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) is a civil society organization working in South Asia and headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal. Its mission is to “implement community-based, enterprise-oriented solutions that conserve biodiversity and improve the livelihoods of the poorest of the poor while bolstering national economic development and addressing climate change”.

Over the last two decades, ANSAB has been providing technical and facilitation support at the village, district, national and international levels to promote sustainable management of NTFPs and NTFPs-based livelihood opportunities. In the past 3 years alone, it conducted a total of 2,281 capacity building events for the benefit of 64,273 people (51.85% of which were women or members of disadvantaged groups). To achieve such results, ANSAB relies on a large pool of experienced, dynamic and qualified training facilitators that can be dispatched according to the needs and level of each group of participants.

LENGTH

The training is designed for 7 days, but the training period and contents can be modified according to the needs and the previous knowledge of participants.