



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



REVIVAL

LEVERAGING CULTURAL & SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND
PRACTICES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION IN TALI

སྤྱིན་པའི་ནང་ནས་ཚས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིན་པ་མཚོགས།

The gift of knowledge is the best gift.

- The Buddha in Dharmapada, XXIV.21

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Little monks of Tali Shedra

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Words would be too lengthy to exhibit the outcomes of the project



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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

"Across Bhutan, you will find many sites where mountains are considered sacred space and thick forests considered as haunted habitat of deities. You also find hidden valleys, blessed water bodies, sacred rocks, holy trees and so forth. The Buli and Tali lakes are an epitome of how nature and culture comes together. They are sacred ecological sites which play a very important role in local life.

People come here with respect for the lake spirit and these kind of spiritual sensitivity is a very powerful force in conserving the lake and in sustaining its ecosystem.

It is a perfect example of how people's cultural belief system can contribute directly to the conservation of a natural environment and how the conservation of the natural environment can enrich the cultural practices and the belief systems. It is a very good example of how culture and nature can harmoniously come together to sustain the environment and the well-being of the people."

Lopen Karma Phuntsho, Buli Lake, 2020

280

POPULATION

148 F 132 M

1

- COMMUNITY SCHOOL
- MONASTIC INSTITUTE
- OUT-REACH CLINIC
- FOREST BEAT OFFICE

1880 MASL
27°10'22.0"N
90°45'13.7"E

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES



Tali village

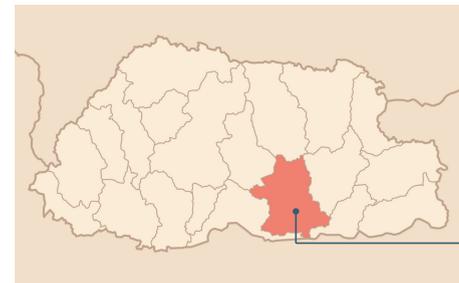
TALI VILLAGE

Tali village comprises of 25 households and at least 280 residents. The settlement is located on the shoulder of a mountain at an elevation of 1880 Masl, surrounded by evergreen broad-leaved forests.

The settlement has road, electricity, internet connectivity, and social infrastructures such as a community school, a monastic institute, an outreach clinic, and a forest beat office.

The majority of the villagers are farmers who grow rice, wheat, millet, and various vegetables and fruits. As a source of income, some people work in carpentry, business, and logistics.

The village is rich and diversified when it comes to both the landscape and culture.



Tali
Nangkor, Zhemgang



Tali Heritage village

RATIONALE

According to local mythology, Tangsibi tsho in Tali is the jewellery basket of the famed Buli tsho. It was left behind when Buli tsho moved from Tali to Buli—covering an area of one acre. However, grasses and water weeds covered 90% of the lake's surface. The lake was contaminated with invasive waterweed, and the lake's water level was declining year after year.

Considering how important the lake is to human and wildlife in Tali, culturally and physically, the lake's drying could have dire consequences.

The Loden Foundation saw an urgent need to remove the weed, revitalise the lake, and sustain the ecosystem through an integrated and holistic management project by combining scientific, social and spiritual approaches.



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