

SUSTAINABLE REPORT

Aarya Village Travel



"A JOURNEY OF HARMONY,
WHERE EXPLORATION MEETS CONSERVATION
TO CREATE A LASTING LEGACY FOR OUR PLANET"

DATE
21/07/2023

OUR IMPACT



85%

of total trips visit in protected areas, conservation areas, national parks

15kg



of waste recycled through DOKO recyclers



0%

... **Zero plastic waste**

During the travel period and within office premises



95%

... **Local Restaurants**

of meals on trip were taken in local restaurants



75%

... **Accommodation**

of total trip stays in sustainable hotels, green resorts and local community stay

SDG

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global objectives aimed at addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges worldwide.

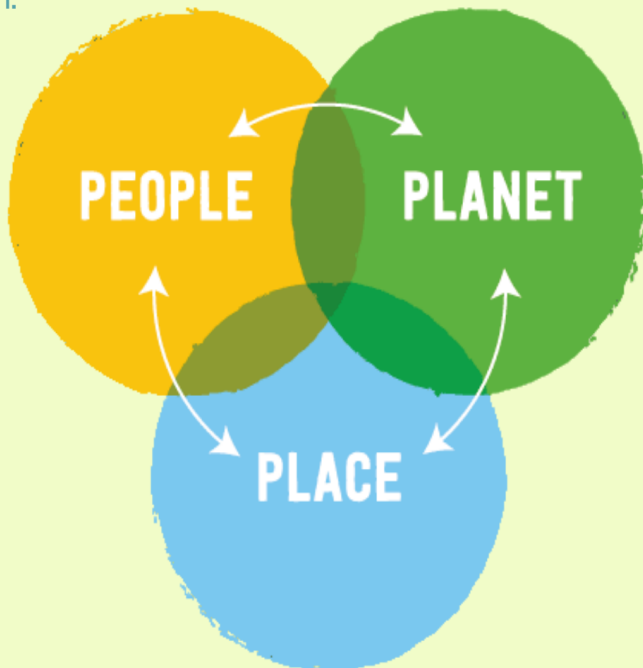
In the context of tourism, these goals seek to transform the industry into a force for sustainable development, minimizing negative impacts while maximizing positive contributions. This report examines the integration of SDGs into our tourism practices, highlighting the potential benefits and outlining key strategies to create a more responsible and sustainable tourism.



PEOPLE - PLANET - PLACE

At Aarya Village Travel, we wholeheartedly believe in building a sustainable future for our beloved planet. To achieve this vision, we have embraced the powerful concept of "People-Planet-Place" as our guiding philosophy in tourism development, in perfect harmony with the UN SDGs.

- 1) First and foremost, we prioritize 'People,' emphasizing inclusivity and fairness in all our endeavors.
- 2) Secondly, we hold the 'Planet' in high regard, understanding the urgent need for environmental preservation and conservation.
- 3) Finally, 'Place' represents the heart and soul of every destination we explore.



MOVING FORWARD WITH SDGs

**1 NO
POVERTY**



We actively engage with the communities we visit, providing opportunities for income generation through tourism-related activities.

In 2022, 85% of trip was organized in the protected areas (including tea house, community owned homestay, local homestay) and 95% of trip meals in trip were taken in local restaurants which directly benefited the local communities.

**2 ZERO
HUNGER**



We take proactive steps to collaborate with our accommodation partners, urging them to source their food from nearby markets, thus contributing to the growth of the local community's economy. To solidify the importance of this initiative, we are in the final stages of establishing a formal contract with our accommodation partners.

**5 GENDER
EQUALITY**



Within our company, we foster a diverse and inclusive work environment, with equal pay and opportunities for everyone. In designing our tours, we actively seek to empower local women entrepreneurs by showcasing their businesses and crafts, helping to elevate their economic status and influence.

No of male employee: 4 / No of female employee: 4
No of female tour guides: 6

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Our utmost focus lies on welfare of our local tour guides and staff, guaranteeing equitable compensation, secure working environments, and prospects for advancing their careers.

The average salary of our local tour guides and staff has increased by 15% over the past two years. In our recent employee satisfaction survey, 80% of our tour guides and staff expressed a high level of satisfaction with their compensation, working conditions, and access to training opportunities.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



The implementation of Customer relation management, digital communication channels and electronic itineraries, our paper usage has decreased by 90% over past two years, thus contributing to reduced deforestation. As of 2023, our tour fleet consists of 3 electric vehicles and 8 bicycles, further demonstrating our commitment to using sustainable transportation options.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Since implementing the initiative to eliminate single-use plastic items, 65% of our travelers have opted for reusable water bottles, contributing to a significant reduction in plastic waste. In post-tour surveys, 95% of our travelers expressed satisfaction with our efforts to minimize the environmental footprint of our tours.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Recognizing the critical imperative for climate action, we fully acknowledge our responsibility concerning our carbon footprint. In light of this, we diligently calculate the carbon emissions generated by our tours and are planning to extend carbon offset programs to our valued travelers.

Starting in 2023, we plan to introduce carbon offset programs for our travelers to voluntarily offset the carbon emissions associated with their tours. Our target is to offset at least 50% of the total carbon emissions.

15 LIFE ON LAND



In 2022, our tours visited 7 protected areas, adhering to strict guidelines to ensure minimal impact on the environment and wildlife within these regions. In total, 85% of trip was organized in the protected areas, thus contributing revenue to support local wildlife protection initiatives, providing direct financial assistance to protected areas' projects on preserving natural habitats and conserving wildlife.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



In 2022, we restructured, organized and offered various festival tours including cultural exchange activities for travelers for them to immerse themselves in local traditions, festivals, and customs.

As a result of cultural exchange, local communities earned \$6,200 in additional income, providing economic support and enhancing their well-being.

**“Together, we explore Nepal
with a heart set on
making a positive impact.”**



WATER CONSUMPTION DATA ON LITRE



The water consumption data compares our water usage between the years 2022 and 2023. According to the data, the reduced water consumption in 2022 was attributed to the COVID-19 lockdown period, resulting in lower consumption compared to 2023.

For 2024, our objective is to decrease our water consumption by 10% compared to previous years.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION DATA ON KILO WATT



The energy consumption data compares our energy usage between the years 2022 and 2023. According to the data, the reduced energy consumption in 2022 was attributed to the COVID-19 lockdown period, resulting in lower consumption compared to 2023.

For 2024, our objective is to decrease our water consumption by 20% compared to previous years.

FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS

In a recent survey conducted among our full-time employees, we collected valuable insights into the impact of flexible working hours policy on employee work patterns, well-being, and job satisfaction.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"Flexible working hours have been a blessing, allowing me to care for my aged parents while excelling in my career. I can attend appointments, provide support, and be there when they need me most. This balance eases caregiving burdens and lets me cherish precious moments with my parents. Grateful for the opportunity to be both a dedicated daughter and a committed professional."

-Ms. Srijana Gurung

12
HRS

1

AVERAGE OF 12 HOURS PER PERSON PER WEEK WORK FROM HOME

3
HRS

2

AVERAGE SAVING OF 3 HRS PER WEEK COMMUTING BY WORKING FROM HOME

80%

3

80% OF EMPLOYEES FELT MORE PRODUCTIVE WHILE WORKING FROM HOME

95%

4

95% OF EMPLOYEES EXPRESSED IMPROVED WORKLIFE BALANCE



MAHAGUTHI
CRAFT WITH CONSCIENCE



**LOCAL HANDICRAFT
WITH SUSTAINABLE
FAIR TRADE POLICY**

SISTERS' CREATIONS

**COOKING CLASS
SESSION EMPOWERING
WOMEN**

**DOLL MAKING
WORKSHOP WITH
LOCAL ARTISAN**



 **COMMUNITY
HOMESTAY NETWORK**



**SUSTAINABLE LOCAL
COMMUNITY STAY
PROJECT**

**THANGKA PAINTING
CLASS WITH LOCAL
ARTISANS**



Garbage cleaning campaign



Donation campaign to orphanage children home



Tree plantation with local community



Meet up session with local community



Annual retreat program



Waste segregation in office



Energy saving LED lights



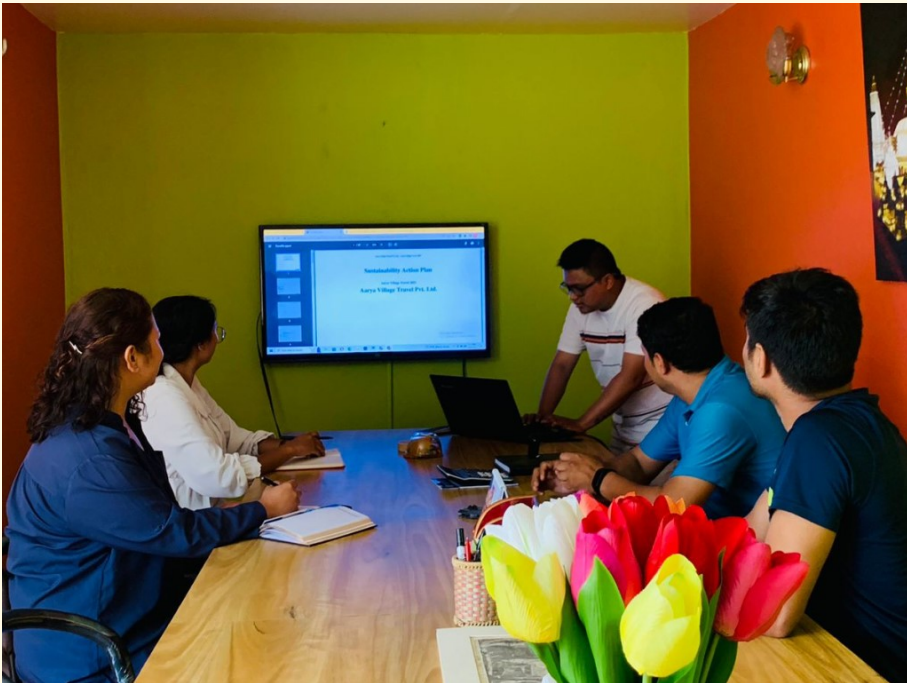
Reusable cutlery in office



Medical kits



Fire extinguisher



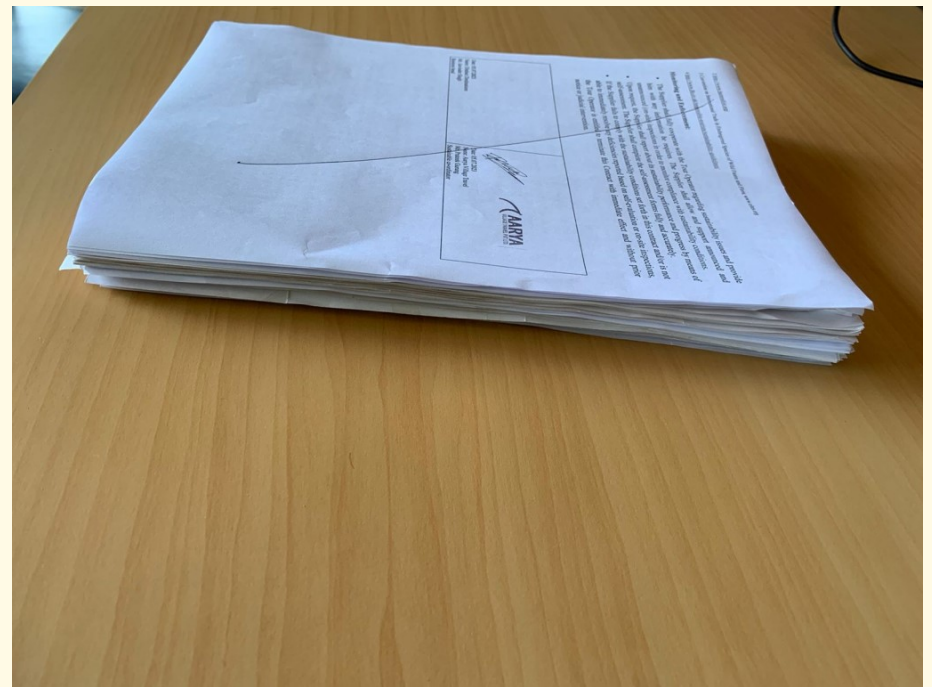
Staff involvement in Travelife action plan



Safe drinking water filter for staff



Card made out of recycled paper



Reused paper for double side printing



Eco-friendly soaps for office use



Corn husk doll as souvenirs made by local artisans



Notice to switch off lights



Recycling waste with DOKO recyclers



Routine vehicle checkup



Staff monthly day out