



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

FY 2020/21 & FY 2021/22

Compiled by : Yangji Doma Sherpa

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are very thrilled to present with you an update on various activities accomplished and key achievements made by SPCC in the last two fiscal years: FY 2077/78 and FY 2078/79.

With advice and guidance from SPCC's outgoing Chairperson, Mr. Ang Dorjee Sherpa and his team, our new leadership and management team continued to improve the waste management situation in settlements, trekking trails and mountains of Khumbu Region; setup/maintain a safer route through Khumbu Icefall; and monitor illegal climbers in the mountains and peaks of Khumbu. We also restarted the Carry Me Back program, which has been halted due to COVID-19 pandemic. In the last two fiscal years, we have made substantial improvements in office operation and management with the goal of strengthening the organization in the long run. Further, we have also extended our working areas to include ward 1 of Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality to cover the entire areas located within the rural municipality.

We continued to maintain strong partnership with the local communities, our local community based partners, the local government - Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality, Sagarmatha National Park, Buffer Zone Management Committee, Nepal Mountaineering Association and Department of Tourism.

Our achievements are in large part due to the continuous cooperation and immense support from our partner agencies, our donors, supporters, local communities, and all tourism related stakeholders. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all partners and we look forward to continuing working together with all to make Khumbu a clean and well-managed region.

THANK YOU.



Lama Kazi Sherpa  
Chairperson



Tshering Sherpa  
CEO



## ACRONYMS

<b>ATCF</b>	Adventure Travel Conservation Fund
<b>BZMC</b>	Buffer Zone Management Committee
<b>CBO</b>	Community-based Organizations
<b>EBC</b>	Everest Base Camp
<b>ESA</b>	Everest Summiteers Association
<b>GMG</b>	Garbage Management Group
<b>HAT-J</b>	Himalayan Trust of Japan
<b>KCC</b>	Khumbu Climbing Center
<b>KPLRM</b>	Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality
<b>MoCTCA</b>	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
<b>NMA</b>	Nepal Mountaineering Association
<b>NMGA</b>	Nepal Mountaineering Guide Association
<b>NTB</b>	Nepal Tourism Board
<b>SNP</b>	Sagarmatha National Park
<b>SPCC</b>	Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nation Development Program



# Waste Collection and Diversion



# CHAPTER 1: ABOUT SPCC

## 1.1 Our History

With the successful ascent of Mount Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenjing Norgay Sherpa in 1953, Khumbu Region has become a popular tourist destination attracting thousands of mountaineers and trekkers from around the globe. In absence of concrete rules and regulations for the disposal of garbage generated by tourists, there had been a serious concern over solid waste management issues in the late 1980's. Our patron late Venerable Ngawang Tenzing Jangpo (Tengboche Rinpoche) mobilized the local people of Khumbu to take initiative for long-term pollution control in the Khumbu Region. This led to the formation of a local non-profit and non-governmental organization in 1991 named 'Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee' (SPCC) with initial financial support from WWF Nepal and Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA). SPCC is legally registered under the District Administration Office in Solukhumbu district (Registration no- 20) and also registered with Social Welfare Council (Registration no-10989).

## 1.2 Our Works

SPCC is the lead organization working to manage waste in Khumbu Region, which form the Sagarmatha National Park and its Buffer Zone and also encompass the core Everest trekking area. SPCC has been continuously working to keep Khumbu clean through development of appropriate waste management infrastructures, and integrating sustainable waste management approaches, such as setting up a system for waste segregation, strengthening community participation in waste management, dissemination of public education, and finding opportunities for waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

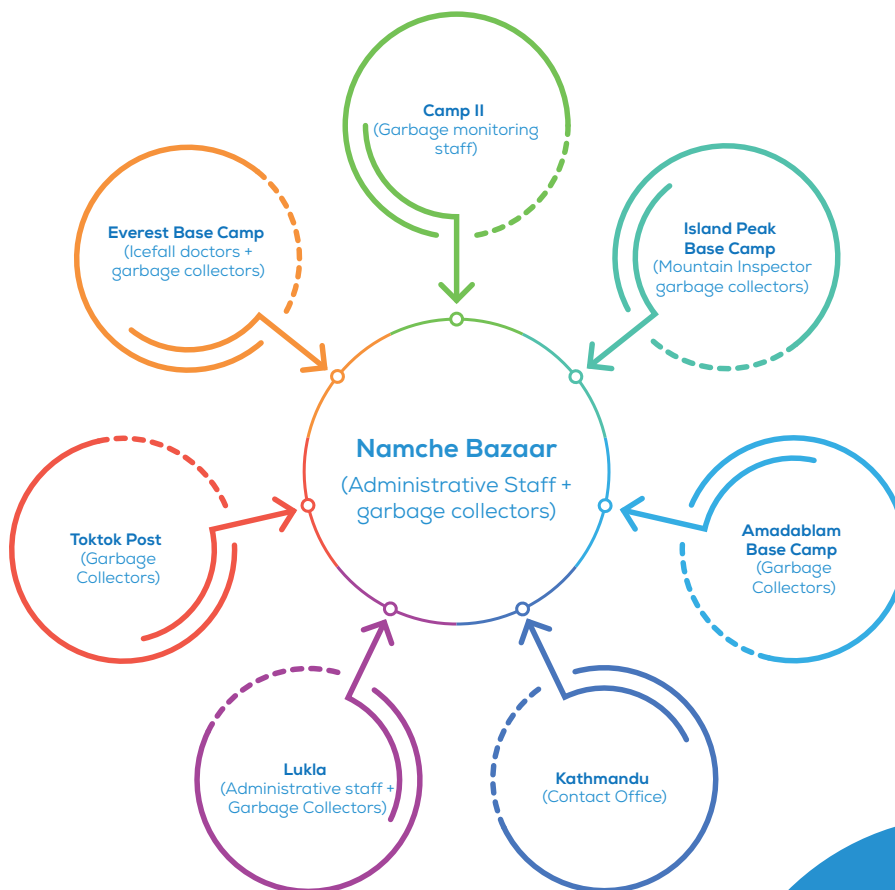
Since 1997, SPCC has been contracted by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) to set the climbing route through the Khumbu Icefall. The SPCC also works to check climbing permits, monitor illegal climbing, and implement waste management strategies at the base camps of the Khumbu area's mountains and peaks including Mt. Everest. We also manage garbage in settlements and along trekking trails in direct coordination with local communities. We conduct all waste management activities including building of waste management infrastructures, waste collection, segregation, transportation and diversion/disposal. Currently, we focus on developing sustainable waste management strategies with a long-term goal of keeping Khumbu clean.

### 1.3 Working Areas

Since its establishment in 1991, the Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) has been continuously working to manage waste in ward no. 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality (KPLRM) located within the Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone (SNP BZMC). This year, the SPCC amended the constitution of the organization to expand its working areas to include the entire Rural Municipality by extending its working areas to ward no. 1. Our waste management activities now cover all the trekking trails, base camps of mountains and peaks, high passes and all settlements located within the Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality.

### 1.4 Work Stations

SPCC head office is located at Namche Bazaar. We have several branch offices and seasonal offices located at various settlements and base camps. Currently, SPCC employs 20 permanent staff and more than 50 seasonal staff to conduct our programs.





## CHAPTER 2: GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### 2.1 Appointment of Chief Executive Officer

The executive committee board meeting held under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ang Dorjee Sherpa on 24th November 2021 at Namche Bazaar appointed Mr. Tshering Sherpa from Khumjung in the post of Chief Executive Officer.

Tshering Sherpa had Master degrees in Business Studies from Global College of Management. He has led the Khumbuila Bufferzone User Group for 5 years as Chairman. Besides that he has leadership experience as chairman of Khumjung youth Club.

### 2.2 Changes in office management:

With the appointment of a new CEO, several changes were made in the office operation and management. Digital/electronic filing system was created to store, organize and share garbage data, financial records, other official files, and documents for effective communication, collaboration, reporting and management. With the aim of going paperless and to reduce in person office visits for permit registration during the COVID pandemic, an online permit registration system was set up and launched for the NMA peaks.

Staff salaries were paid through the banking channel, and icefall fees/garbage fees were directly deposited in the bank. New accounting software was procured and training was provided to concerned staff for using the software. Initiated to compile and share monthly progress reports.

Viber groups created and used for communicating among the management staff, icefall doctors' team and executive board members. Weekly online meetings of management staff and bi-weekly meetings were initiated and continued, which helped in improving the efficiency of office operations.

### 2.3 New Executive Board elected through AGM:

The Annual General Meeting of SPCC was successfully conducted on 7th June 2022 at Namche Bazaar. A new 11- member executive committee was elected under the leadership of Mr. Lama Kaji Sherpa from Namche. We heartily welcome our new Chairperson and board members.

- 1. Mr. Lama Kaji Sherpa, Chairperson**
- 2. Mr. Dawa Gyaljen Sherpa, Vice Chairperson**
- 3. Mr. Pemba Tshering Sherpa, General Secretary**
- 4. Mr. Ngima Tashi Sherpa, Treasurer**
- 5. Mrs. Nima Doma Sherpa, Member**
- 6. Mrs. Chheten Doma Sherpa, Member**
- 7. Mr. Tenzing Dorjee Sherpa, Member**
- 8. Mr. Nanga Dorjee Sherpa, Member**
- 9. Mr. Sonam Dorjee Sherpa, Member**
- 10. Mr. Phulopsang Sherpa, Member**
- 11. Mr. Ngatamba Sherpa, Member**

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to our immediate past Chairperson Mr. Ang Dorjee Sherpa and his team. Under his leadership and guidance, SPCC has started many initiatives and made significant achievements in waste management in the Khumbu Region in the last ten years, such as building waste management infrastructures, raising awareness and conducting cleanup campaigns, strengthening community participation in waste management, and adopting the concept of segregating and recycling wastes.

#### 2.4 Amendment of SPCC's constitution:

The AGM held at Namche last month made two major decisions: 1) to extend the working areas of SPCC to Kharikhola area (ward no. 1) of Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Gaupalika; and 2) to change the previous structure of the 17-member executive board to 11 -member executive board. Amendments were made in SPCC's constitution to include these changes.



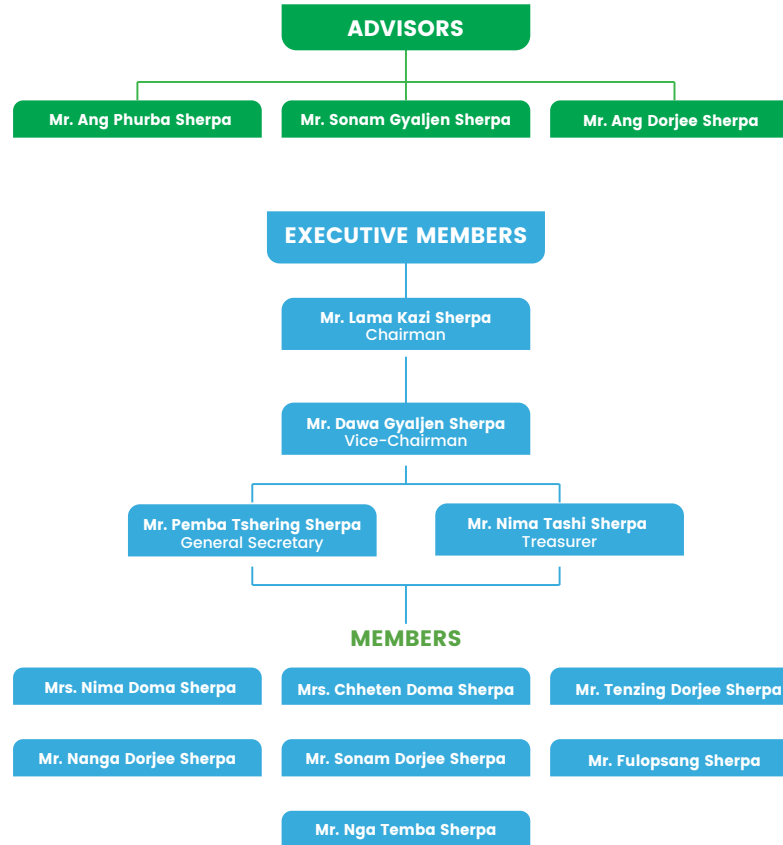
held at Namche Gonda

## 2.5 Executive Board Chart



### EXECUTIVE BOARD

2022-2026



## CHAPTER 3: OUR WORKS IN THE MOUNTAINS AND PEAKS

Khumbu Region is home to some of the magnificent and tall mountains on earth including Mt. Everest, the highest peak in the world. Some of the popular mountains for climbing in the Region include Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse, Mt. Nuptse, Mt. Amadablam, Mt. Pumori, Mt. Baruntse, Mt. Thamserku etc. Climbers need to acquire permits from the Department of Tourism (DoT) under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) to climb these mountains. Each year, hundreds of climbers come to Khumbu Region to climb these mountains.

Similarly, many popular peaks regulated by the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) are located in the Khumbu Region, such as the Island Peak, Lobuje Peak, Kyazo Ri, Pharchamo etc. Climbers need to acquire a permit from NMA to climb these peaks.

For many years, SPCC has been working with the Department of Tourism (DoT) for managing garbage at the base camp of mountains and also setting up the Khumbu Icefall Route for climbers attempting to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. SPCC also works with the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) to manage garbage generated by climbers climbing peaks registered under NMA and monitoring illegal climbers.

### 3.1 Waste Management of permit required mountains and peaks

SPCC is the authorized local organization responsible for monitoring garbage in the permit-required mountains

under MoCTCA and NMA registered peaks through “permit registration, garbage declaration and clearance system”. As per the system, all expedition groups/climbers are required to register their permit at the SPCC office and declare their equipment and food list. With the aim of going paperless and to reduce in person office visits for permit registration as a precautionary measures during the COVID pandemic, SPCC set up an online permit registration system for the NMA peaks and launched the system from 1st of October 2021.

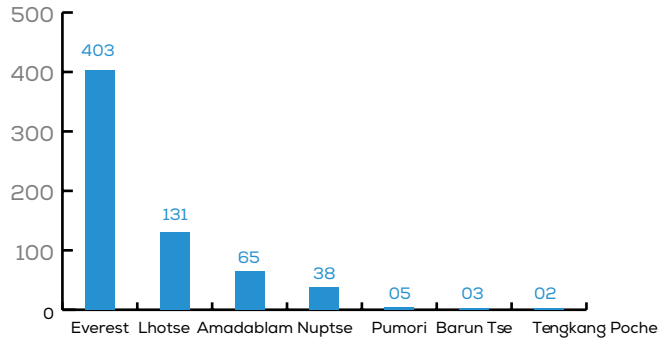
Upon completion of their climbing period, each group must submit all burnable and non-burnable garbage to our office at Namche, Lukla or our representative at Everest Base Camp, Island Peak Base Camp, Lobuche Peak Base Camp and Amadablam Base Camp. Upon receipt of garbage, the SPCC issues a garbage clearance certificate required to get garbage deposit refunds from the DoT and/or NMA. SPCC manages the burnable garbage in Khumbu and transports recyclable garbage to Kathmandu for further treatment at recycling centers. We also manage human waste generated by climbers during their stay at Everest Base Camp, Lobuje Peak Base Camp and Island Peak Base Camp.



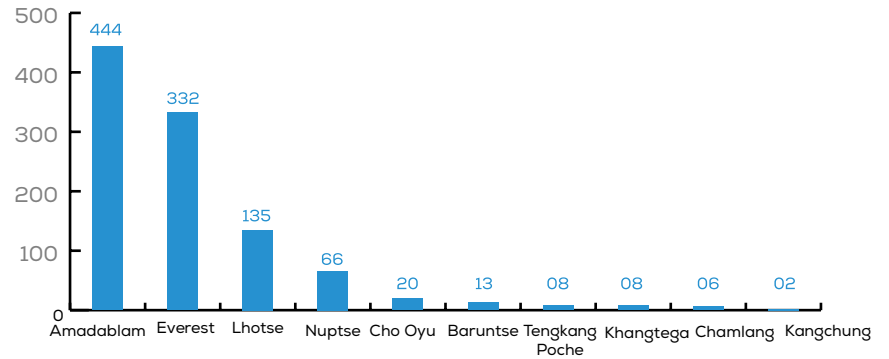
## **RULES FOR CLIMBERS AND EXPEDITION GROUPS IN KHUMBU**

1. Garbage should be segregated into burnable, non-burnable and biodegradable categories at the base camp. All garbage must be handed over to SPCC to get a garbage clearance certificate.
2. Every climber ascending beyond Everest's base camp must bring back at least 8 kg of garbage, and climber ascending above Amadablam base camp must bring back 3 kg of garbage.
3. Human waste (toilet) produced at the base camps must be collected in portable plastic barrels
4. Burning or burying garbage at the base camps is strictly prohibited.
5. Painting on rocks is not allowed.
6. SPCC can check your permit any time during the expedition period.

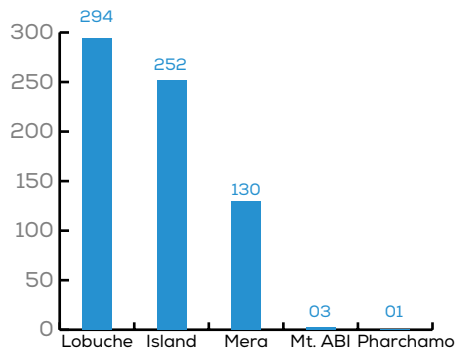
Climbers attempting various mountains in the Khumbu Region ( FY 2020/21)



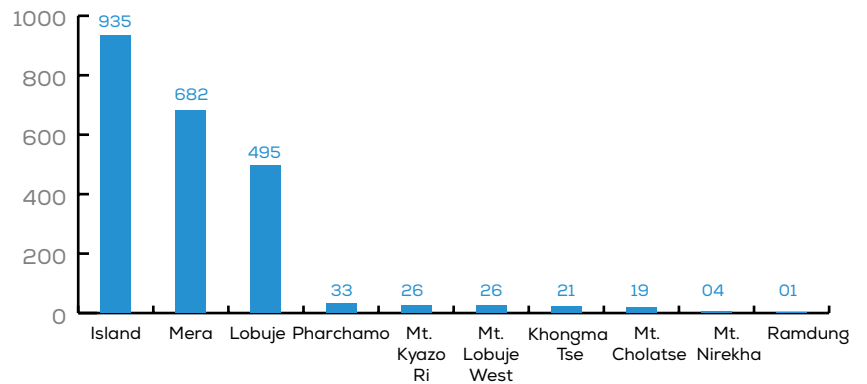
Climbers attempting various mountains in the Khumbu Region (FY 2021/22)



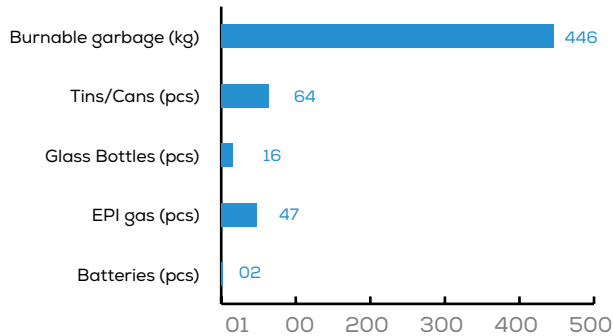
Climbers attempting various peaks in the Khumbu Region (FY 2020/21)



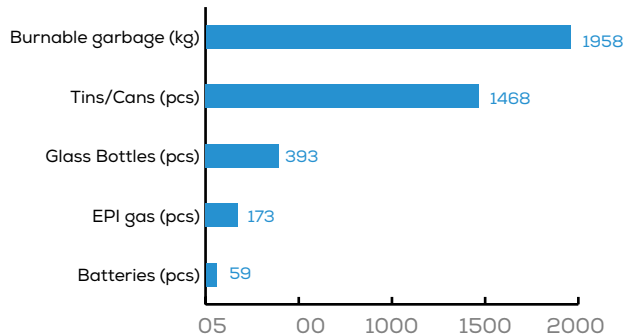
Climbers attempting various peaks in the Khumbu Region (FY 2021/22)



### Garbage generated from NMA peaks (FY 2020/21)



### Garbage generated from NMA peaks (FY 2021/22)



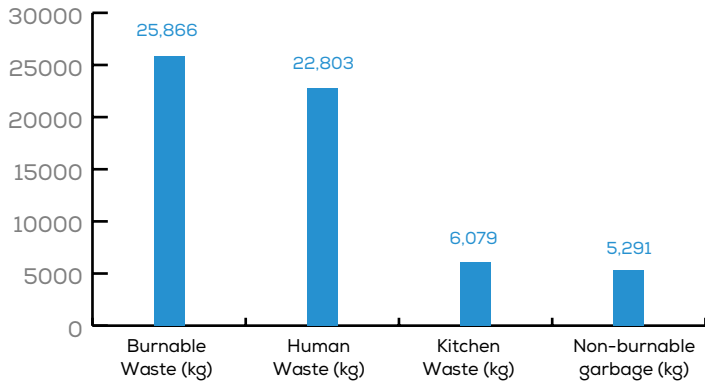
### 3.2 Waste management at Everest Base Camp

SPCC also manages garbage and human waste generated by expedition teams at EBC in every spring climbing season. Expedition waste comprises climbing equipment and gears (ropes, tents, epi gas, ladders etc.), tins, cans, human waste and kitchen waste. In every spring climbing season, the SPCC mobilized around 25 field staff for the management of garbage and human waste; and inspection of the 8 kg garbage rule near Khumbu Icefall. SPCC also mobilized two staff to monitor garbage at Camp II during the spring climbing season.

All garbage generated by expedition teams during their stay at EBC were submitted to SPCC representatives at base camp. Burnable garbage generated by climbers was transported at our waste management facilities at Namche, and non-burnable garbage was transported to Kathmandu for further treatment at recycling centers. All expedition teams are required to use a portable toilet system during their stay at EBC. Our staff took the human waste collected in barrels to a safe disposal site near Gorakshep making sure that human waste is not directly dumped over the glacier at EBC.

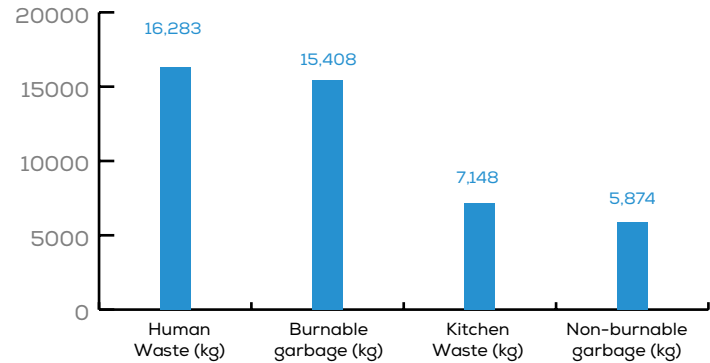
### Garbage generated by expedition groups in Spring 2021 (Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse and Mt. Nuptse)

In the Spring 2021 climbing season, SPCC received and managed a total of 60,039 kgs waste at EBC. Detailed breakdown of waste from EBC in Spring 2021 is as shown in the chart.



### Garbage generated by expedition groups in Spring 2022 (Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse and Mt. Nuptse)

In Spring 2022, SPCC received and managed a total of 44,713 kgs waste at EBC. Detailed breakdown of waste from EBC in Spring 2022 is as shown in the chart.





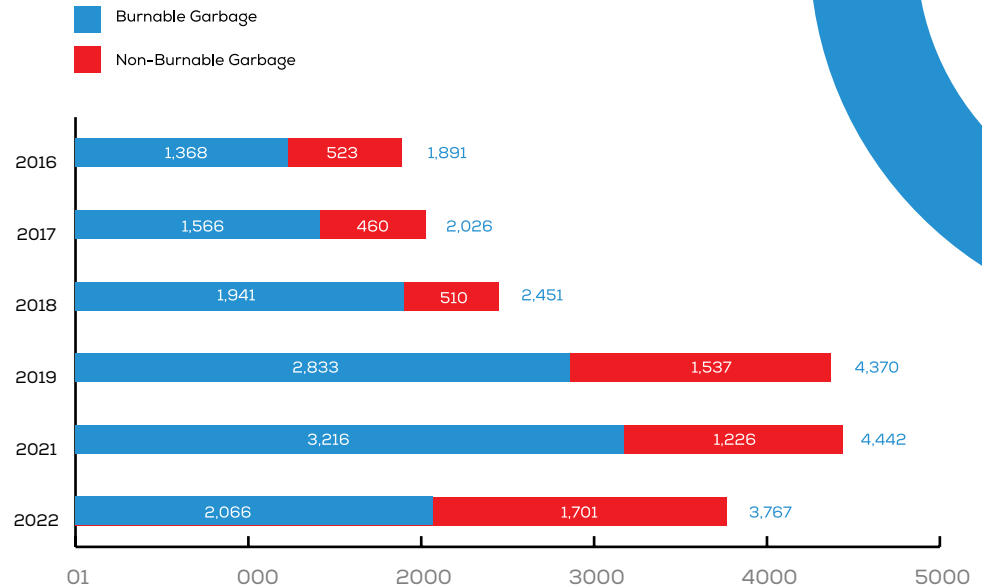


Garbage inspection and management at Everest Base Camp, Spring 2022

### Inspection of 8 kg garbage rule for Mt. Everest:

Since 2015, SPCC also inspects the 8 kgs garbage rule formulated by the Nepal government for Mt. Everest, according to which every climber ascending above Everest base camp must bring back at least 8 kg of garbage. We have set up a checkpoint for inspecting the 8 kg garbage rule at the base of Khumbu icefall. The chart shows the total garbage received from above base camp through the 8 kg rule implemented since 2016.

### Burnable and non-burnable garbages brought by expedition team through 8 kg rule



### 3.3 Management of garbage collected by various cleanup campaign teams:

In Mangsir, SPCC received 179 kg burnable and 694 kg non-burnable garbage from the Asian Trekking Cleanup Campaign Team. The team collected the garbage from Everest Base Camp in November. Similarly, SPCC received a total of 657 kg of garbage from Thamichowa Youth Group. The Youth Group collected garbage from Gyajo Ri and Pharchamo Peak base camps. Similarly, SPCC received 480 kg burnable garbage from Nepal Army collected from the Mountain Cleanup Campaign 2021 and 3,698 kg burnable garbage from Nepal Army collected from the Mountain Cleanup Campaign 2022. SPCC manages all burnable garbage in Khumbu and will transport non-burnable garbage to Kathmandu for further treatment.

### 3.4 Attendance of Liaison Officers at SPCC's office:

In coordination with the Department of Tourism, SPCC has maintained an attendance system for liaison officers assigned for various expedition groups at our Namche head office and EBC office. All liaison officers are required to visit the SPCC office at Namche and EBC to confirm their travel at the destination.

### 3.5 Khumbu Icefall Route Construction Project

Since 1997, SPCC has been contracted by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) to set the climbing route through the Khumbu Icefall. The Khumbu icefall is the section between Everest Base Camp and Camp II that passes over deep and dangerous crevasses. It is considered

as the most difficult and dangerous part of climbing Mt. Everest. In every climbing season, SPCC recruits eight icefall doctors to set up the Khumbu Icefall Route used by mountaineers to climb Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse and Mt. Nuptse. Our icefall doctors' team consist of highly skilled climbing Sherpas from the Solukhumbu Region. Icefall doctors usually open the route in early April and close it at the end of May in the spring climbing season. As the icefall section is very unstable, icefall doctors monitor and maintain the route throughout the climbing period.

Following an avalanche at the Western Cwm in Khumbu Icefall on 16th April 2014 killing 13 expedition Sherpas in the deadly icefall, our Icefall





*SPCC's Icefall doctors setting up and maintaining the Khumbu Icefall Route*

Doctors set a new and safer route through the Khumbu Icefall in 2015. The previous route used until 2014 ran along the Lola pass to the left side of the Icefall. Aided by aerial photographs taken by David Breashears following the 2014 avalanche, they mapped out a new route from Base Camp to Camp I through the center of the icefall followed by a pre-existing route to Camp II. The central route significantly reduces the risk of encountering serac collapses and avalanches such as the one experienced during the tragedy of the Spring 2014 season.

The Khumbu Icefall Route fee assessment committee sets the fee for Khumbu Icefall Route. The committee consists of representatives of Department of Tourism (DoT), Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), Everest Summiters' Association (ESA), Everest Operators' Association (EOA), Trekking Agents' Association of Nepal (TAAN), Nepal National Mountain Guide Association (NNMGA) and SPCC. As per the revised fee applicable from spring 2014, each member of the expedition team has to pay US\$600 for using the route in spring climbing season and a combined sum of US\$25,000/- for all climbers for setting the route in the autumn and winter season.

### 3.6 Monitoring of SPCC's Programs at EBC

Honorable Minister Prem Bahadur Ale, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation; Mr. Hom Prasad Luitel, Acting Secretary, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation; and Mr. Taranath Adhikary, Director General, Department of Tourism visited Everest Base Camp on 23rd May 2022 for monitoring the Khumbu Icefall Route maintenance and waste management programs at Everest Base Camp. Following their visit at EBC, SPCC's Chair Mr. Ang Dorjee Sherpa and CEO Mr. Tshering Sherpa welcomed the delegates at Everest View Hotel and shared about SPCC's waste management programs in the Khumbu Region.



*Monitoring of SPCC's programs at EBC*



### 3.7 Monitoring of Illegal Climbers in Peaks

SPCC has set up a check post at Island peak base camp to monitor illegal climbers, manage solid and human wastes. Imja Tse popularly known as Island peak (6,189 m) is the most popular peak of Khumbu Region. Our assigned inspection officer and sub inspection officer check climbing permits of climbers at the base camp. All climbers are required to keep their permit with them during their climbing period. If any of the climbers are found to be involved in illegal climbing, they have to face prosecution as per the laws governing regulations of Nepal. In Autumn 2021, our inspection officer caught one female climber of Chinese nationality while climbing Island Peak without a permit. This case has been immediately reported to NMA and the climber has been fined \$250.



*SPCC checkpoint at  
Island Peak Base  
Camp*

### 3.8 Fixing ladders over crevasses in Island Peak

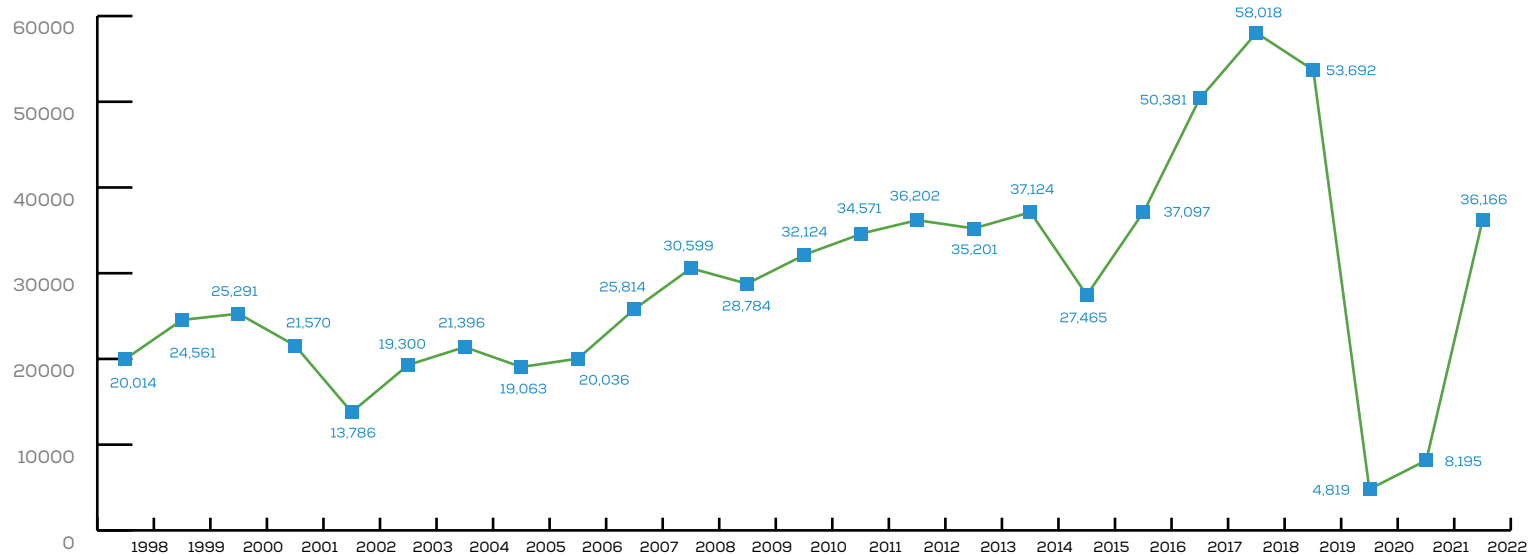
SPCC inspects the climbing route of Island peak at the beginning of every climbing season, and install ladders if wide crevasses appear along the route. In this regard, our scope of work is to inspect crevasses along the route and install ladders when required over wide crevasses. Climbers need to use their own ropes and equipment for climbing. No wide crevasses were seen in Autumn 2021 and Spring 2022 climbing season.



*Management of garbage at Island Peak Base Camp*

## CHAPTER 4: OUR WORKS ALONG THE TREKKING TRAILS

Khumbu Region, popularly known as Everest Region is one of the most popular trekking destinations of the world and is visited by thousands of trekkers each year from all around the globe. Since the first scaling of Mt Everest in 1953, the number of visitors in Khumbu Region has increased greatly: from about 1,400 in 1972-3 to more than 53,000 foreign trekkers in 2019 during the pre- COVID-19 pandemic times. The enormous increase of visitors to the Everest region during the last quarter century has tremendously supported the local economy. Nevertheless, the pressure exerted from tourism has also resulted in increased environmental degradation from waste. With an increase in the number of visitors, littering of trash along trekking trails has become prominent. SPCC manages wastes along all major trekking trails of Khumbu Region that passes along various settlements, high passes and base camps. Trails waste mostly comprises wrappers, PET bottles and cans.



Foreign Tourist arrivals in Sagarmatha National Park 1998 – 2022

(Source: SNP entrance gate, Jorsalle)

#### 4.1 Construction and Management of garbage bins

With the aim of building a more effective waste collection system along the Region's trekking trails, SPCC has started to build permanent garbage bins along the trails since 2013. Each bin has segregation chambers to collect trash by categories so that these wastes will be properly treated and managed accordingly. SPCC built a total of 119 garbage bins and has been overseeing the maintenance and management of all garbage bins. A total of 109 garbage bins were built at various resting points along the trekking trails and 10 garbage bins were built at nine schools located within Khumbu Region. SPCC's field staff and local partners continuously monitor littering of trash along the trekking trails and manage all garbage bins located along various trekking trails.



*Garbage bin constructed and managed by SPCC*





### Our garbage bin Sponsors:

1. Adventure Travel Conservation Fund (ATCF)
2. AlpenGlow Expedition
3. Alpine Ascents International
4. Club Alpino Italiano
5. Eco Himal - Saving Mt. Everest Waste Management Project
6. Epic Private Journeys
7. Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA)
8. Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)
9. Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)
10. Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone Management Committee (SNP BZMC)
11. Shangri-La Nepal Trek
12. Tenzing Natural Drinks
13. Vertical. Chile
14. World Nomads

### 4.2 Maintenance of garbage bins and coordination with local partners:

SPCC team led by Program Officer, Mr. Kapindra Rai completed a two weeks field visit in . The team repainted 34 garbage bins located along the Island Peak Base Camp and Everest Base Camp Trekking trails. The team also conducted consultation meetings with local partners at Gorakshep, Chukung, Upper Dingboche, Somare and Milingo. Village level cleanup campaigns were also conducted at Milingo and Somare during the field visit.



*Maintenance of garbage bins*



### 4.3 Cleanup of Trekking Trails

In every trekking season, SPCC sends field staff for cleaning up the trekking trails - one at the beginning and one at the end of the trekking season. During the field visits, our field staff collect litter along the trails, empty the garbage bins, and transport the garbage to the disposal site. They cover all major trekking trails passing through major settlements including the high passes, popular base camps.



*SPCC staff cleaning along trail*



*Maintenance of drinking water tap at Topdada*

### 4.4 Management of toilets at Topdada:

SPCC oversees management of public toilets at Topdada and Police Check Post near Namche for providing sanitation facilities for trekkers, guides, porters and local people traveling along the busy trail between Jorsalle and Namche Bazaar. Each restroom has two toilets, one for tourists and one for the public. We have made provision to collect a small fee for tourists to pay for its upkeep and maintenance. The other toilet is open for free use for the public, particularly to encourage porters to use the toilet facility. We have also set up drinking water supply at both the locations. Our drinking water tap at Topdada which had been vandalized has now been repaired for usage.

#### 4.5 Carry Me Back (CMB) Project

The Carry Me Back (CMB) program was initiated by SPCC and Sagarmatha Next in partnership with Sagarmatha National Park, Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Committee, Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality, Tara Air and Blue Waste to Value. The program was tested successfully in Autumn 2019, but was halted due to COVID-19 pandemic. On 17th April 2022, we restarted the CMB Program, a crowdsourced waste removal system to transport semi processed waste from Khumbu for proper recycling. The main aim of this program is to transport semi-processed recyclable materials, such as aluminum cans, PET bottles and tins for recycling with voluntary support from trekkers. The CMB program for the spring 2022 was sponsored by Dell Reconnect through Sagarmatha Next.

We have set up the pickup station at Police CheckPoint, Misilung where anyone interested can pick up approximately 1 kg bag on his/her way back to Kathmandu and drop the bags at our drop off station located near Lukla gate or at Lukla airport. The CMB program has been successfully conducted from 17th April 2022 till 31st May 2022. The program was well received with over 750 participants transporting more than 1,300 bags of recyclable wastes from Namche to Lukla.



*Glimpses of Carry Me Back (CMB) Project - Spring 2022*



#### 4.6 Trek Achievement Certificate (TAC)

The Trek Achievement Certificate (TAC) was jointly prepared by the Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) and Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Committee (SNP BZMC). This certificate has been prepared as a souvenir of Khumbu for trekkers visiting the Khumbu Region. It is available for sale at the Police Check Post at the entrance of Namche Bazaar, SPCC office at Lukla and Namche. All proceeds from the sale of TAC go to the Solid Waste Management Fund to support SPCC's waste management activities in Khumbu.

In 2022, Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality (KPLRM) was also included as the main partner of the TAC program together with SPCC and SNP BZMC. The design of the TAC certificate has been revised to include all partners. Likewise, the cost of the TAC has been revised as Rs. 500 effective from Autumn 2022.



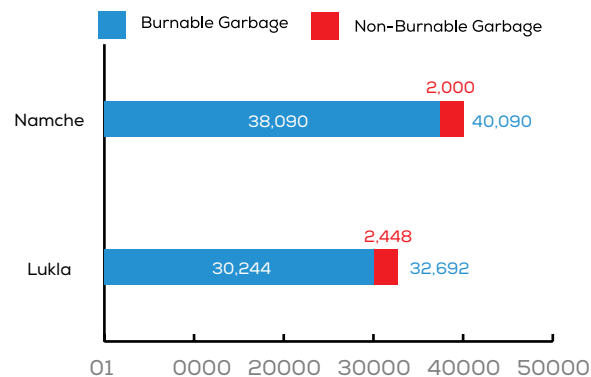
## CHAPTER 5: WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SETTLEMENTS

As tourism becomes the main livelihood strategy of the people of Khumbu region, tourism related business enterprises such as lodges, restaurants, bakeries, tea shops and shops are established almost in every settlement. These enterprises produce tons of garbage including tins, cans, packages, PET bottles, papers and kitchen wastes in tourist season. For years, SPCC has been taking various initiatives to address waste management issues in the settlements by developing appropriate strategies to manage garbage produced by business enterprises and local households. Our efforts range from building waste management infrastructures, providing door-to-door services in major settlements, mobilizing garbage management groups (GMGs), and finding solutions for waste transportation and diversion. .

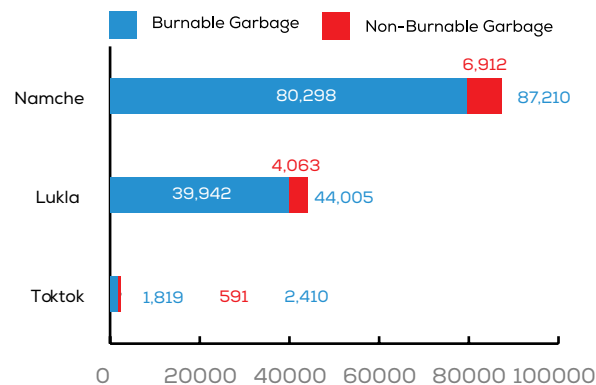
### 5.1 Daily garbage collection and management at Namche, Lukla and Taktok:

SPCC has been providing door-to-door waste collection services in Namche and Lukla – the two major settlements of Khumbu region. Our field staff collect garbage from all households and enterprises, and transport it to our waste management facilities for further treatment. Currently, we provide door-to-door waste collection services to a total of 110 lodges, restaurants, cafés and shops at Namche and a total of 64 households and various business enterprises at Lukla. We also have a field office stationed at Taktok. We mobilized our field staff to collect trash along various trekking trails.

Garbage collected at Namche and Lukla in FY 2020/21



Garbage collected at Namche, Lukla and Taktok in FY 2021/22



## 5.2 Partnership with community partners in various settlements

With the aim of strengthening community participation in waste management, SPCC created Garbage Management Groups (GMGs) in various settlements, and assigned responsibilities for them. Further, SPCC also extended its partnership with interested existing local organizations, such as youth groups and women's groups. With their partnership and engagement, waste management in various settlements and trekking trails has improved significantly. Currently, SPCC works with over 20 community partners in various settlements located within our working areas. Our local partners conduct regular cleanup programs in their villages, and work directly with SPCC in addressing garbage management issues in their respective settlements. SPCC provides financial and technical support to local partners for garbage management in their settlements. SPCC provided financial support to our community partners listed in the Table for the Spring season 2022.

Name of Community partners receiving financial support from SPCC for Spring 2022

S.N.	Name of Community Partners	Name of Villages
1	Hiu Chituwa Samrakshan bachat tatha Rin byabasthapan Samuha	Thamo
2	Phurte Mahila Samuha	Phurte
3	Danphe Mahila Samuha	Phakding
4	Yumchoma Mahila Samuha	Yilajung
5	Shomare Sarsafai Tatha Fohor Byabasthapan Samuha	Shomarey
6	Tengboche Gumba Byabasthapan samuha	Tengboche
7	Dole Pragati Samuha	Dole
8	Tashinga Milijuli Sarsafai Tatha Fohor Byabasthapan Samuha	Lausasa
9	Renjola Milijuli Sarsafai Tatha Fohor Byabasthapan Samuha	Lungden
10	Thameteng Bachat Tatha Rin Byabasthapan Samuha	Thameteng
11	Gorakshep Chetra Sudar Samiti	Gorakshep
12	Lobuje Sarsafai Tatha Fohor Byabasthapan Samuha	Lobuje
13	Dingboche Lodge tatha Hotel Association	Dingboche
14	Pheriche Sarsafai Samuha	Pheriche
15	Machermo Portershelter Sanchalak Samiti	Machermo
16	Gokyo cho Byabasthapan Samiti	Gokyo
17	Khumjung Youth Group	Khumjung
18	Luripeak Mahila Jagaran Samuha	Phortse
19	Sagarmatha Mahila Samuha	Toktok
20	Khumbiyula Mahila Samuha	Monju
21	Sundarpeak Bachat Tatha Rin Byabasthapan Samuha	Thame

### 5.3 Support for garbage pit construction in Chaurikharka:

At the request of Bouddha Mahila Samuha, SPCC provided financial support to Bouddha Mahila Samuha to construct a dumping pit for garbage management in Chaurikharka area. The pit has been completed in Asar month and ready for use for garbage management for the local communities.



*New garbage pit constructed in Chaurikharka*



## 5.4 Waste Segregation, Collection, Transportation, Diversion and Disposal

SPCC continues to focus on strengthening proper systems for waste segregation at the base camps, along trekking trails and in various settlements so that all types of wastes don't end up in a dumping pit. All our garbage bins constructed along the trekking trails have two compartments for storing burnable and non-burnable garbage separately. As per our garbage declaration and clearance system, all waste generated by expedition groups/climbers needs to be segregated and submitted to SPCC to get a garbage clearance certificate. In settlements, our staff and local partners segregate the waste into burnable and non-burnable categories. The non-burnable garbage is transported to our collection centers.

Kitchen waste makes up a significant portion of overall wastes in Khumbu. Kitchen waste is valuable as animal feed, and thus separated from other wastes at household level and fed directly to animals. Apart from kitchen wastes, other burnable garbage is managed at our waste management facilities. Burnable garbage is either incinerated in enclosed burning chambers or dumped in pits. We have built nine enclosed burning chambers at various settlements till this date.

SPCC has built non-burnable garbage collection centers at major settlements of Khumbu. The non-burnable garbage, such as tins, cans, glass and irons that can be recycled is collected in our non-burnable collection centers. At this date, we have established twelve non-burnable garbage collection centers at Lukla, Phakding, Chumoa/Monju, Namche, Tesho,



*Recyclable garbage segregated and collected at various settlements*

Lausasa, Pangboche, Pheriche, Mongla, and Dingboche. We have plans to build additional non-burnable garbage collection centers in other settlements in coming years. We have three waste storage houses located at Syanboche, Namche and Phakding for storing non-burnable garbage.

As it is environmentally not appropriate to dispose of non-burnable garbage in the mountains, SPCC transports a major portion of non-burnable garbage to Kathmandu for further treatment at recycling centers. SPCC collects and transports non-burnable garbage from base camps, trekking trails and settlements to the nearest airport Lukla by porters or zopkyoks. As a part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Tara Air has been supporting SPCC to transport non-burnable garbage from Lukla to Kathmandu at free of cost since 2015. The non-burnable garbage is then handed over to our Kathmandu-based partner Blue Waste to Value in Kathmandu for further segregation, processing and recycling.







*Glimpses of Voices from Everest program held at Namche*



## CHAPTER 6: OTHER ACTIVITIES

### 6.1 Voices from the Everest - A Pre-COP 26 Dialogue for Climate Action

A Pre-Cop 26 event “Voices from the Everest” was successfully organized on the 28th October 2021 at Namche Bazaar. The event brought together experts, mountaineers, local leaders, local communities including women and youth of Khumbu Region to share experiences on the climate change crisis, impact of climate change on day-to-day lives of the people and the actions that could be taken to address the impacts of climate change. During the event, local communities of Khumbu also showcased and shared about local solutions to tackle climate change and their aspirations for a resilient, sustainable mountain development. The event highlighted the importance of tackling climate change globally. Popular singer Ani Choying Dolma performed a ‘Climate Chord from Everest’ and called on everyone to choose a simpler life that is close to nature.

The event was jointly organized by SPCC, UNDP Nepal, Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality (KPLRM), Sagarmatha National Park (SNP), Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Committee (SNP BZMC) and Yeti Airlines. SPCC provided technical and logistic support for organizing the event at Namche.

## 6.2 Felicitation program for Honorable Mr. Sonam Gyalzen Sherpa

In the National Assembly polls held on January 26, 2022, Mr. Sonam Gyalzen Sherpa was elected as a member of the National Assembly from Province 1. Mr. Sherpa is the only candidate from the main opposition CPN-UML who won the election representing his party.

Mr. Sonam Gyalzen Sherpa is the first person from the Sherpa community to be elected as a National Assembly member. He is the Chairperson of Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Committee (SNP BZMC) and also SPCC's advisor. On 27th January 2022, a reception and felicitation program was organized in Kathmandu to congratulate Honorable Mr. Sonam Gyalzen Sherpa. The program was jointly organized by SPCC along with 10 other organizations from Khumbu Region. The program was attended by 159 people from Khumbu. SPCC family would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to Honorable Mr. Sonam Gyaljen Sherpa and extend best wishes for his successful tenure.



Felicitation program held for Honorable Mr. Sonam Gyaljen Sherpa in Kathmandu

### 6.3 Support for “Cleanup Our Sacred Site” program :

A one day cleanup campaign was conducted on February 19, 2022 at Namo Buddha. The campaign was jointly conducted by Namche Youth Group and Namche Women’s Group. Eighty three participants from Namche village participated in the cleanup campaign and collected 7 tons of garbage from Namo Buddha area. SPCC has provided Rs. 50,000/- fund to support the cleanup campaign. SPCC Chairperson, Mr. Ang Dorjee Sherpa and our staff also participated in the one-day cleanup campaign at Namo Buddha.



*Glimpse of Cleanup Our Sacred Site Program held at Namo Buddha*

#### 6.4 Documentary on SPCC's activities in Khumbu:

SPCC has contracted a film making team from Sammunat Media Pvt Ltd to produce a documentary on SPCC's activities in the Khumbu Region. The documentary shooting team visited the Khumbu Region to film SPCC's activities and conduct interviews covering most of our working areas starting from Lukla to Everest Base Camp in May 2022.

#### 6.5 Interactions meeting with various stakeholders:

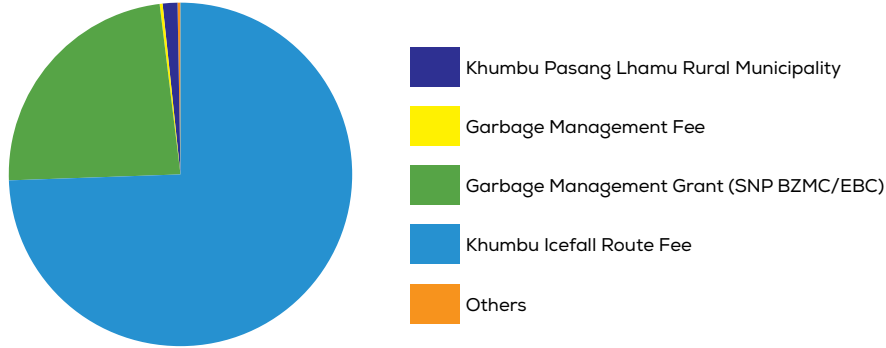
Newly elected Chairperson, Mr. Lama Kaji Sherpa along with board members held interaction meetings with various stakeholders in Kathmandu, such as the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), the Department of Tourism, and the Trekking Agents Association of Nepal (TAAN).



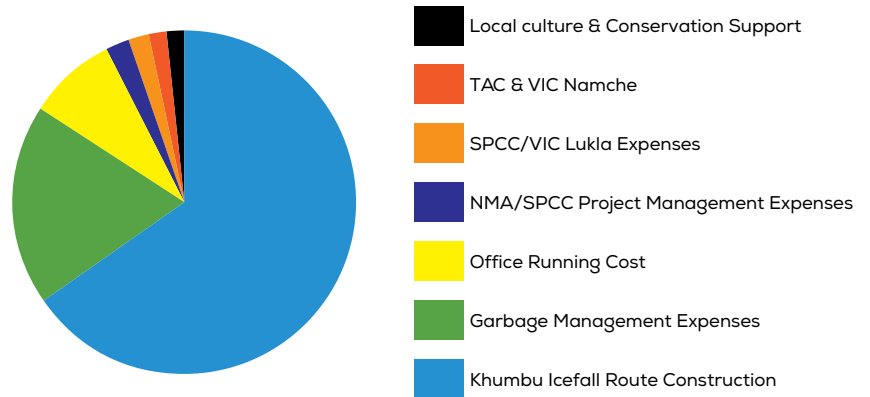
*Glimpses of interaction meetings with stakeholders*

# CHAPTER 7: FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

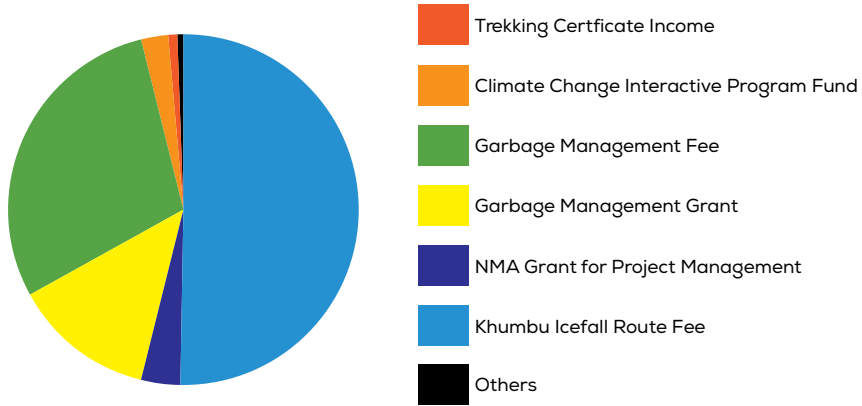
Income sources for the FY 2020/21



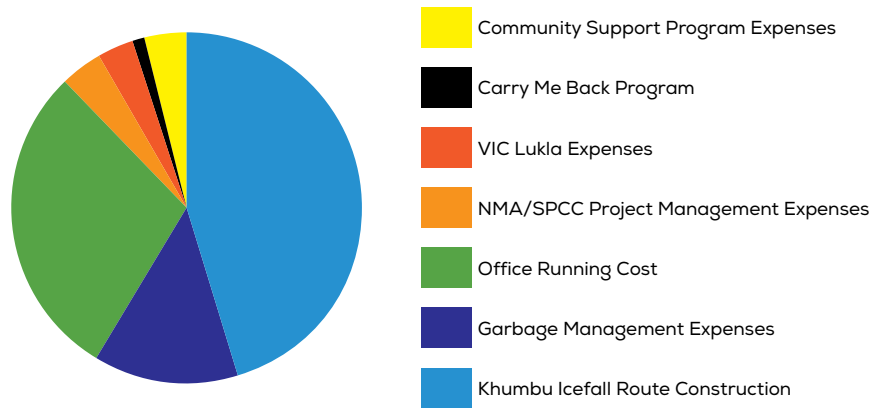
Expenses incurred in different activities in FY 2020/21



### Income sources for the FY 2021/22



### Expenses incurred in different activities in FY 2021/22



## CHAPTER 8: OUR PARTNERS

### Major Executing Partners:

- Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA)
- Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality (KPLRM)
- Sagarmatha National Park (SNP)
- Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Committee (SNP BZMC)
- Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)

### Other Partners

- Adventure Travel Conservation Fund (ATCF)
- Blue Waste to Value
- Dell Reconnect
- Eco Himal Nepal
- Himalayan Adventure Trust of Japan (HAT-J)
- Himalayan Museum and Sustainable Park/Sagarmatha next
- Khumbu Eco Club Network
- Tara Air
- Tenzing Natural Energy
- UNDP Nepal
- World Nomads
- WWF Nepal



## CONTACT US

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**Head Office:**

Namche Bazaar, ward no. 5  
Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Gaunpalika  
Solukhumbu, Nepal  
+977 38 540457  
[info@spcc.org.np](mailto:info@spcc.org.np)  
[www.spcc.org.np](http://www.spcc.org.np)  
[www.facebook.com/SPCCNepal](https://www.facebook.com/SPCCNepal)

**Branch Office:**

Lukla, ward no. 2  
Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Gaunpalika  
Solukhumbu, Nepal  
+977 9841154245