

## South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)



- South Asia region
- SAWEN Member Countries are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

*Formal network*

**Authorities involved:** Law enforcement authorities including Forest and Wildlife agencies, Police, Army, Other Security Agencies, and Customs.

**Brief description:** South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) is an intergovernmental wildlife law enforcement support body launched in 2011 with aim to combat wildlife crime in South Asia through regional cooperation and collaboration having eight member countries namely - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It focuses on policy harmonization; institutional capacity strengthening through knowledge and intelligence sharing; and collaboration with regional and international partners to enhance wildlife law enforcement in the member countries. SAWEN operates its activities from the Secretariat based in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### **Key activities**

Aligning with the objectives, SAWEN organizes, supports and coordinates to carry out the capacity building activities, regional meeting of law enforcement officials, documentation, cooperation and collaboration with similar agencies. We recently organized General Meeting of SAWEN from 02 to 03 November 2022 in Maldives. SAWEN is organizing capacity building activities including wildlife crime prosecution and investigation training in Nepal in September

### **Website and other useful links**

<https://www.sawen.org/>

### **Key partners in the region**

INTERPOL, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), UNODC, National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) Nepal, TRAFFIC, WWF Nepal, the World Bank, Zoological Society of London,

### **Network focal points**

Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Chief Enforcement Coordinator of SAWEN  
[maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com](mailto:maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com)

Mr. Pradeep Bhattarai, Senior Environment Officer, SAWEN  
[nrmpradeep@gmail.com](mailto:nrmpradeep@gmail.com)  
[info@sawen.org](mailto:info@sawen.org)

### **Network focal points**

Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Chief Enforcement Coordinator of SAWEN  
[maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com](mailto:maheshwar.dhakal@gmail.com)

Mr. Pradeep Bhattarai, Senior Environment Officer, SAWEN  
[nrmpradeep@gmail.com](mailto:nrmpradeep@gmail.com)  
[info@sawen.org](mailto:info@sawen.org)