

*Greetings from Bhutan*

**SEEA Experimental Ecosystem  
Accounting- *a country presentation***

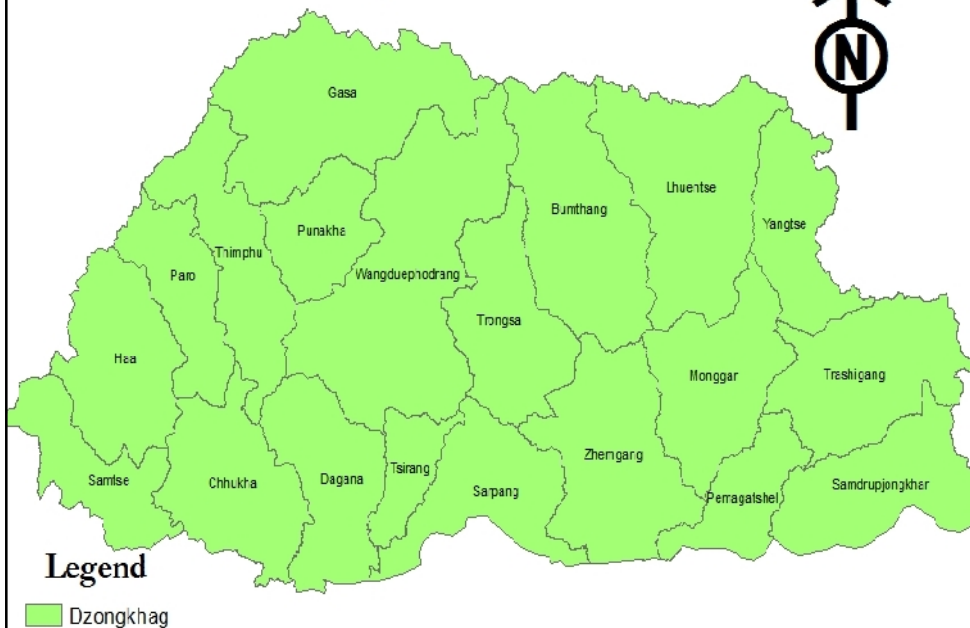
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# Outline of the Presentation

- ✓ Setting the context
  - ✓ Country profile
  - ✓ Policies and institutional arrangement
  
- ✓ Status of SEEA
  - ✓ SEEA implementation
  - ✓ Data/statistics quality and availability
  
- ✓ Challenges and Opportunities
  
- ✓ Future plans and strategy

# Country Profile

Map of Bhutan



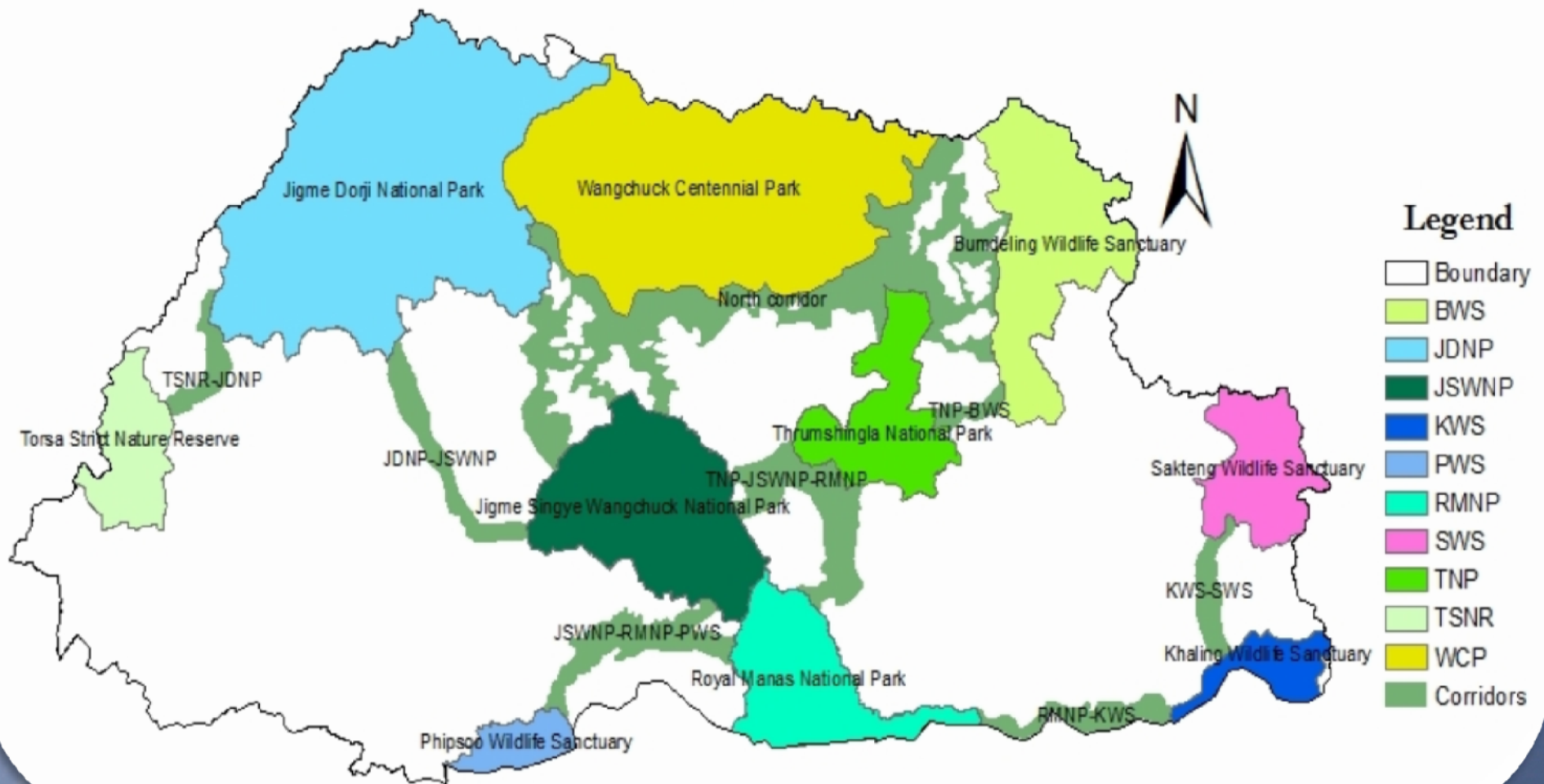
Total Geographical area: 38,394 Km<sup>2</sup>

Altitude Range: 100 m – 7000 m

Total Population: 759,704 (2015)



# Protected Areas and Biological Corridors of Bhutan



Protected Areas and Biological Corridors : 19,703.57 Sq.Km (51.44%)

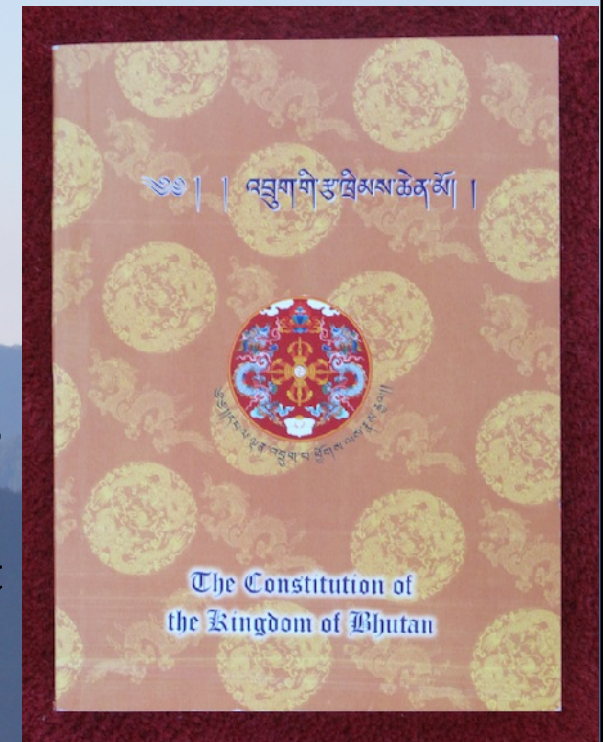
# *Policies and Enabling Environment*

## 1. The Constitution of the kingdom of Bhutan

### Article 5

### Environment

3. The Government shall ensure that, in order to conserve the country's natural resources and to prevent degradation of the ecosystem, a minimum of **Sixty Percent** of Bhutan's total land shall be maintained under forest cover for all time



## 2. Development Philosophy of GNH

**Gross National Happiness (GNH)**

**Equitable Socio-  
Economic  
Development**

**Preservation and  
Promotion of Culture**

**Environment  
Conservation**

**Good Governance**

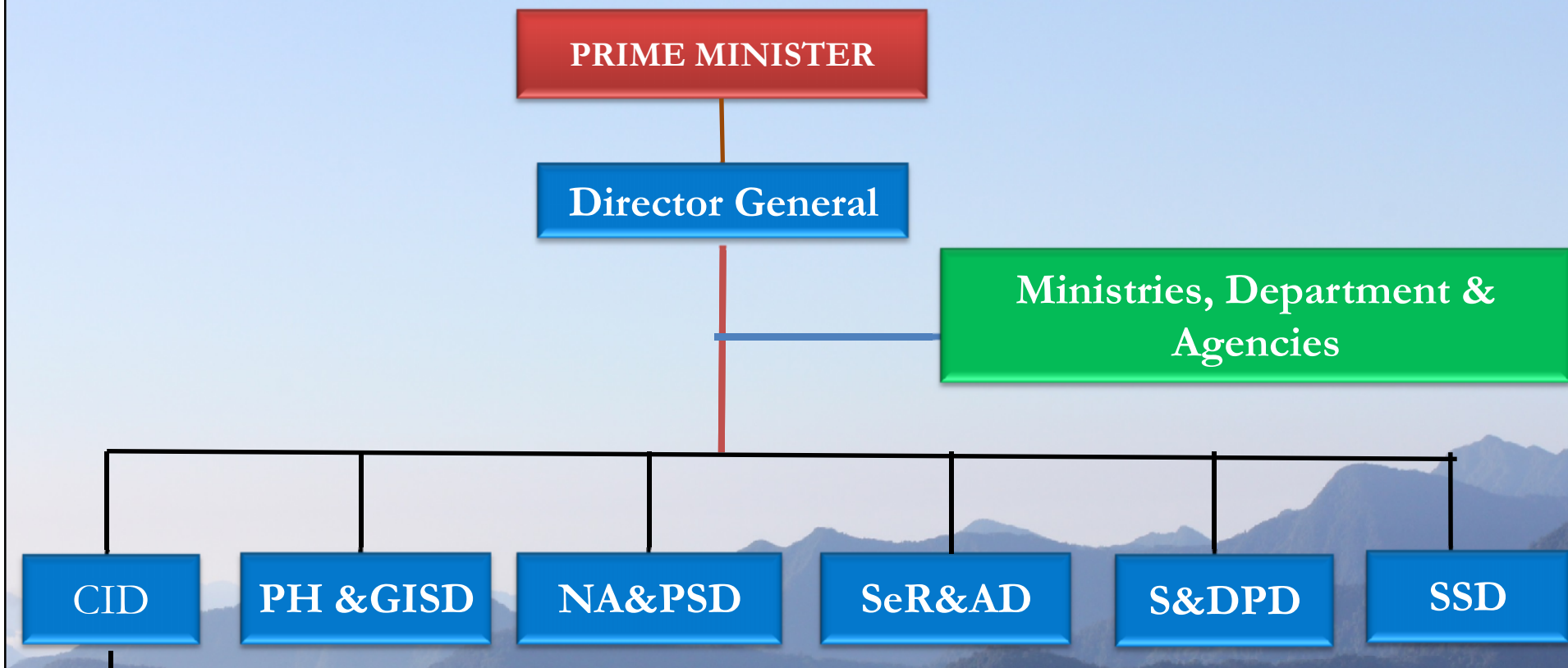
**FOUR PILLARS OF GNH**

# 3. Enabling Plans and Programmes





# Organogram of NSB and Institutional Arrangement



## *Abbreviations*

CID	Coordination & Information Division
PH&GISD	Population Housing & GIS Division
NA&PSD	National Accounts & Price Statistics Division
SeR&AD	Socio-economic Research & Analysis Division
S&DPD	Survey & Data Processing Division
SSD	Secretariat Services Division
DSO	Dzongkhag Statistics Offices

# National Statistics Bureau

Department  
of  
Agriculture

Department  
of  
Hydropower  
Systems

Department  
of  
Renewable  
Energy

Department  
of  
Livestock

Department  
of  
Hydromet  
Services

Department  
of Forests  
and Park  
Services

Departmen  
t of  
Geology  
and Mines

National  
Environment  
Commission  
Secretariat

# Institutional Mandate of NSB

- ✓ Publish state of environment reports and submit to the Lhengyal Zhungtshog/Parliament once every 5 years and disseminate the findings to the general public.
- ✓ Promote and conduct environmental research
- ✓ Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of bilateral and multilateral environmental agreements, conventions, treaties or declarations.
- ✓ Receive representations on environmental matters from members of the civil society

# Institutional Mandate of NSB

- ✓ Develop and facilitate the implementation of the national sustainable development strategy (nsds)
- ✓ Coordinate and monitor cross-sectoral issues related to water, forestry and mineral resources and waste management in the country.
- ✓ Participate in all environment related regional, sub-regional and international conferences and negotiations.

# SEEA Implementation Status

- ✓ Bhutan is fairly new to SEEA
- ✓ We had mission from UNSD to carry out an assessment of data availability



# Data Quality and Availability

As per the recent UNSD assessment, **primary data is available** but **scattered across sectors**

For accounting purpose:

- ✓ Land partial data available - Cadastral survey still ongoing
- ✓ Forest: Partial data available as forest resource inventory ongoing
- ✓ Water: Flow data for major rivers available however, data on stock especially relating to glacial lakes not available

# Challenges and Opportunities

## Challenges

- ✓ Coordination
- ✓ Time Resources
- ✓ Lack of skilled manpower/human resources
- ✓ Scattered data and statistics
- ✓ Inconsistencies in methodologies

## Opportunities

- ✓ Huge opportunity for Bhutan- Environmental values
- ✓ Understand role of Environment on Development and Society
- ✓ Informed decisions based on evidence and statistics
- ✓ Enable strategic and appropriate policy decisions for Environmental management
- ✓ Good Governance -Gross National Happiness

# Future Plans and Strategy

- ✓ Immense opportunity and benefit that SEEA has for Bhutan
- ✓ Adopt SEEA for Bhutan
- ✓ Further collaboration with experts from UNSD and regional partners
- ✓ Capacity building
- ✓ Implementation of SEEA





*Thank you*  
*Terima Kasih*