

## Project Update: April 2014

### First 6 months

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
To use past experience on human-leopard conflict to make media more aware about the issue in other states.		x		The work has started and the ground is being prepared to have these media workshops in four other states.
To involve the local NGOs and Forest Department in these workshops		x		In the state of Andhra Pradesh, a workshop has already been held for the senior forest officials on human-leopard conflict. The rest of the work is under planning.
To involve media from Maharashtra and other places in the workshops.	x			Only the workshops are in the process of being planned as of now. The actual workshops will be conducted starting the second half of this year.

We experienced difficulties when we planned one event in March 2014. March is the financial year ending, which concerned the Forest Department, they requested that the workshop be postponed to April 2014. However, there are country elections in April so the workshops had to be postponed for after elections.

As of now, the project is still in the planning stage but in the state of Andhra Pradesh the Forest Department requested a workshop for their senior staff and they also invited two senior officers from my study site in Maharashtra to discuss issues of conflict with them. Furthermore, the Chief Wildlife Warden of Andhra Pradesh deputed a field officer from Ananthpur, a high conflict area in Andhra Pradesh to visit my study site on a study tour with three other field officers.

I met with senior and junior forest officials in the state of West Bengal and they were very interested in the media workshops. However, there is a student of mine who is finishing his MSc thesis on human-leopard conflict in a high conflict area in West Bengal and I thought it better to wait until his results are out before having the media workshop.

During the media workshops we information share with the media and forest department staff about the complex nature of human leopard conflict.

I have distributed more than 100 of the manuals I had made as part of an earlier Rufford grant to the officials in Andhra Pradesh, which displays the Rufford logo. Also, this month

there is a media workshop planned in Chandigarh and I will be distributing 50 copies of a poster with the Rufford logo as well as the manual.