

Project Update March 2013

1. Pre-Group Discussion

This was done in December 2012; the main objective of this discussion was to pre-test the questionnaire of ethno-herpetological survey and we finalised the questionnaire using the output of discussion.

2. Ethno-herpetological Survey

An ethno-herpetological survey was conducted in the study area with the help of two research assistants in February 2013 through which preliminary information (from social survey only) on status, distribution and threats was collected. Traditional beliefs of different communities towards species were also collected from this survey. The most important objective of this survey is to prepare for the field survey; the output of the survey has become very important for us to design the field study. As the species becomes active in rainy season, fieldwork is planned to commence in July and August 2013. A transect survey with systematic random sampling and area search method is planned to use in the field survey.

3. Brochures

Brochures are prepared and these will be distributed in community and concerned stakeholders in early July 2013, just before commencement of fieldwork.

4. Youth Focused Programme

This is planned for late June 2013; we are in regular touch with chair-person of local youth club.