

# Genetic Variation, Ecology and Conservation of Asiatic Black Bears (*Ursus thibetanus*) in Annapurna Conservation Area, Nepal

## Background



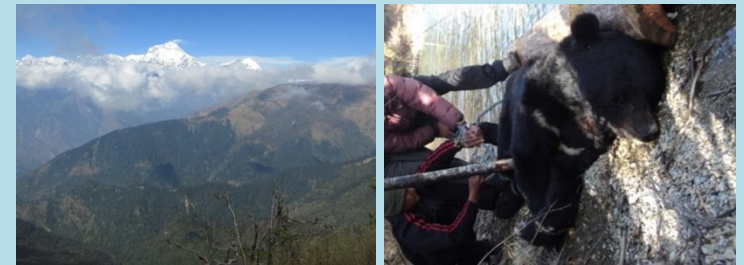
Global distribution



Asiatic black bear

## Threats for bear conservation

- Habitat degradation
- Human bear conflict
- Retaliatory killing and poaching



**Purpose:** To understand genetic variation and food habits of isolated Asiatic black bears populations in Nepal.

## Hairs



## Feces



## Methods

### Genetics

- Mitochondrial DNA
- Microsatellite DNA

### Food habits

- Diet analysis

## Current Results

### Genetics

- Out of 27 fecal samples, DNA was successfully extracted from 17 samples.

### Food habits

- Wild fruits/nuts(85%) are major food followed by grasses (43%) .