

Project Update: November 2016

Snake conservation awareness programmes and its news coverage

I have conducted conservation awareness programmes at 10 different schools/colleges and communities in Rupandehi district, Nepal. The educational talks with pictorial representation were related to the diversity, distribution and habitats of snakes, recognition of venomous and non-venomous species, snakebite prevention, first-aid treatments, and symptoms of venomous bites by cobra, krait and vipers, misconceptions on snakes and the advantages of conservation of snakes to biodiversity. I have produced educational materials like photographs, posters, brochures, pamphlets and calendars that were distributed to various people from different community, teachers and students, conservationists, community forest groups, health personnel, media personnel etc. showing important facts about snake conservation. I also have showed video documentary “One Million Snakebites” at different schools and communities which was provided by Romulus Whitaker during my presentation at India. Awareness programmes helped to change people’s perceptions towards snakes. At the ending session of each awareness programmes, the participants were encouraged and motivated to share their knowledge at least to their three neighbours, who have missed a chance to participate in awareness programmes.

It is estimated that about 3,000 people have gained knowledge on the conservation of snakes directly through the conservation awareness programmes in various study sites; 10,000 people have gained knowledge through the educational materials like photographs, posters, brochures, pamphlets and calendars and a huge amount of community people (approximately; more than 100,000) gained knowledge through media; local and national newspapers, FM radio and television with whom we coordinated. Shankarnagar Banbihar and Research Center, Kaligandaki Health Foundation, and Biodiversity Conservancy Nepal supported me to conduct these programs.

I have also presented and discussed our ongoing work in the snake conservation meeting “Snakes of Nepal” for the very first time in Nepal at National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), Chitwan supported by WWF Nepal and Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) in May 2016.





Conservation awareness program at different communities



Researcher and his assistant educating community people



Video documentary show and Snake handling training



Headline news published on Butwal Today National Daily and Khasyauli Saptahik (weekly) newspaper



Discussion of our ongoing work on snake conservation meeting supported by WWF Nepal and NHRC and its news on Kantipur National Daily



Live interview on Khasyauli F.M. on Snake Conservation



News related to Workshops

