

Project Update: March 2017

The project aims to assess the habitat status, its distribution, creating awareness on conservation of golden mahseer to the local communities.

Among all those aims, I have completed some parts of field research works on finding out the threats and knowledge of the local people about the fish (golden mahseer) and creating awareness on conservation of the fish to the local people. We conducted household surveys and focus group discussions to explore the local ecological knowledge of golden mahseer. We used a simple closed ended questionnaire survey as an instrument for the interviews. The interview was conducted in three villages namely Yadi, Chaskhar



Interview with local people



Meeting and group discussion with local people

and Thangrong. Of the total 1134 households, we randomly selected 338 households which is 30% of the total from those three villages. We interviewed 94 households from Yadi, 134 households from Chaskhar and 110 households from Thangrong villages. We interviewed the head of the household and asked about their knowledge on common fish species in their catch, threatened fish (golden mahseer) population status and trends.

We organised meetings and workshops to create awareness on the conservation of golden mahseer in the study area (Sherichu River). The local leaders, local communities and local fishermen were main focus group.

This programme is intended to change their perception and willingness to conserve the threatened fish. During the workshop, we provided an open platform to share information, experiences and lesson learned. We went to those schools that falls within and nearby the study area and educated them on the importance of conservation and status of golden mahseer.



Study Area (Sherichu River)