

2017

PROGRESS REPORT: MAY, 2017

Project: Involving veterinary practitioners for the conservation of critically endangered vultures in eastern lowland of Nepal



**Submitted by:
Khadananda Paudel
PhD Student
University of Porto
Portugal**

**Submitted to:
The Rufford Foundation**

MAY, 2017

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Activity 1: Printing of T-shirts and production of posters | 1 |
| Activity 2: Workshop on vulture conservation..... | 3 |
| Activity 3: Trainings to veterinary practitioners | 4 |
| Activity 4: Awareness programme to school students and local youths..... | 7 |
| Activity 5: Radio Program..... | 10 |
| Activity 6: Surveys of threats other than toxic NSAIDs to vultures..... | 10 |

Project Update: May 2017

A collaborative approach for involving the local people and the relevant authorities is always been sought during project implementation. Project activities are being implemented jointly with Nepal Paravet and Livestock Association in each districts and representative from District Livestock Service Office are invited in the project activities. Journalists, especially those working in the environment conservation sector are also invited in the programs. The project is going smoothly following the planned schedule. The following activities have been organized in Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Saptari, Sunsari, Morang and Jhapa districts in order to achieve the project objectives.

Activity 1: Printing of T-shirts and production of posters

One hundred t-shirts putting the message of stopping use of diclofenac as well as other toxic drugs for conservation of vultures were printed during November 2017 and were distributed to the relevant stakeholders during project execution.



Likewise, one thousand copies of posters having the message of stopping the use of diclofenac as well as other toxic drugs for conservation of vultures were printed during November 2017 and were distributed to the relevant stakeholders during project execution.

डाइक्लोफेनेक किटोप्रोफेन र एसिक्लोफेनेक
जस्ता गिद्धलाई हानीकारक औषधिको प्रयोग बन्द गरौं:
गिद्ध संरक्षणमा हामी सबैले सहयोग गरौं ।
STOP DICLOFENAC KETOPROFEN ACECLOFENAC AND OTHER VULTURE TOXIC DRUGS:
LET'S PROTECT OUR VULTURES



डाइक्लोफेनेक लगायत
अन्य प्रतिबन्धित औषधिको
उत्पादन, आयात,
बिक्री-वितरण तथा
प्रयोग गरेको पाईएमा
औषधि ऐन
२०३५ बमोजिम ३ वर्ष कैद
वा रु. २५,००० जरिवाना
वा दुवै सजाय हुन
सक्ने कानुनी
प्रावधान छ ।


विस्तृत जानकारीको लागि:
खडानन्द पौडेल
knpaudel@gmail.com





Activity 2: Workshop on vulture conservation

A first workshop of the project with representatives of veterinary practitioners, veterinary pharmacy owners and District Livestock Service Office was organized at Inaruwa, Sunsari on 1 December 2016. This workshop was organized by Nepal Para

Veterinary and Livestock Association district chapter Sunsari. Office chief, Veterinary Officers and Technicians from District Livestock Service Office Sunsari, members from Nepal Para Veterinary and Livestock Association district chapter Sunsari, veterinary practitioners as well as veterinary pharmacy owners in Sunsari district and media persons from newspapers and radio were present in the workshop. Overall status of vultures in Nepal, their major threats and ways to overcome the threats especially on how to stop the illegal use of toxic NSAIDs including diclofenac in veterinary use in eastern Nepal was discussed in the workshop. Besides this the participants were divided into four groups to discuss in more detail on how this project could be implemented in more effective way in eastern Nepal and each groups presented the summary of their discussion in the workshop. In summary, the workshop



made aware to the participants on status of vultures in Nepal, their threats and urgent need to stop causal factors of their threats. In addition to this, the workshop provided suggestions to collaborate with veterinary practitioners and institutions they are associated and provide them trainings about the causes of vulture decline and role of veterinary practitioners in vulture conservation.

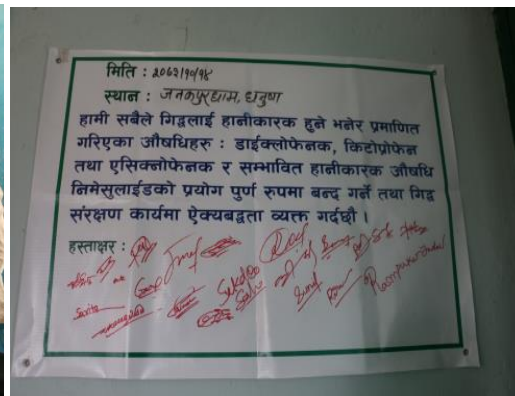
Activity 3: Trainings to veterinary practitioners

Trainings to veterinary practitioners were carried out in eight project districts namely: Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Saptari, Sunsari, Morang and Jhapa during January and April 2017. The trainings were implemented in collaboration with Nepal Paravet and Livestock Association in each district. Representative from District Livestock Service Office and journalists were also invited in the training programs. The trainings were focused to provide the knowledge on history and cause of vulture decline, nephrotoxicity of diclofenac and other toxic drugs on vultures, urgent need of stopping use of toxic drugs and the important role of veterinary practitioners in stopping the use of vulture toxic drugs. In addition to these, pledges to stop using diclofenac and vulture toxic drugs were also collected from the participating veterinary practitioners. Questionnaire survey was done with the participants before the training as well as after the training to assess the change in their knowledge and perception brought by trainings. Posters were also distributed to the participants in these trainings. Altogether 165 participants participated in all these eight trainings. The list of dates, venue and number of participants in each of the training is provided in the following table:

| S. No. | Date | Venue and district | Collaboration | No. of participants |
|--------|-----------------|---|--|---------------------|
| 1 | 26 January 2017 | Service Centre of District Livestock Service Office, Ramgopalpur, Mahottari | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Mahottari district | 21 |
| 2 | 27 January 2017 | Pasture and Fodder Seed Multiplication Farm, Janakpurdham, Dhanusha | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Dhanusha district | 26 |
| 3 | 29 January 2017 | Charan Farm Lalbandhi, Sarlahi | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Sarlahi district | 27 |
| 4 | 13 April 2017 | District Livestock Service Office, Golbazaar, Siraha | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, | 18 |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|------------|
| | | | Siraha district | |
| 5 | 16 April 2017 | District Livestock Service Office, Rajbiraj, Saptari | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Saptari district | 20 |
| 6 | 17 April 2017 | Village Development Committee building Basantapur, Sunsari | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Sunsari district | 19 |
| 7 | 18 April 2017 | Regional Veterinary Laboratory (RVL), Biratnagar, Morang | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Morang district | 16 |
| 8 | 23 April 2017 | Shree Madan Aashrit Memorial Multiple Campus, Kerakha, Jhapa, | Nepal Para- veterinary and Livestock Association, Jhapa district | 16 |
| | Total no. participants | | | 165 |





Activity 4: Awareness programme to school students and local youths

Awareness programs to school students and local youths were also conducted in project area during January and April 2017. The trainings were focused to provide the knowledge on history and cause of vulture decline, need of conserving vultures to keep our environment clean, need of stopping illegal use of the toxic drugs in veterinary practice and role of students and local youths in vulture conservation. The assumptions of these awareness program is that there is a need for education to school students and local youths so that they will spread the lessons they learn about vulture conservation in their localities which will help in the minimizing the use of vulture toxic drugs in project area. Posters were also distributed to the participants in these trainings. Altogether 417 participants participated in all these ten awareness campaigns. The list of dates, venue and number of participants in each of the awareness program is provided below.

| S. No. | Date | Name of youth club | Venue | No .of participants |
|--------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 28 January 2017 | Shree Jamkabhet Youth Club | lalgadh, Dhanusha | 13 |
| 4 | 14 April 2017 | Aadarsha Youth Club | Budhashanti, Budhabare, Jhapa | 14 |
| | Total no. participants | | | 27 |

| S. No. | Date | Name of School | Venue | No .of participants |
|--------|-----------------|---|--|---------------------|
| 1 | 26 January 2017 | Shree Mahendra Higher Secondary School | Ramgopalpur, Mahottari | 79 |
| 2 | 27 January 2017 | Janaki Secondary English Boarding School | Janaki chawki-11, Janakpurdham, Dhanusha | 54 |
| 3 | 20 April 2017 | Bhanu Memorial English Boarding School | Biratnagar, Morang | 36 |
| 4 | 24 April 2017 | Himalayan Secondary School | Damak-2, Jhapa | 42 |
| 5 | 24 April 2017 | Siddhartha Boarding Higher Secondary School | Belauri, Damak, Jhapa | 40 |
| 6 | 26 April 2017 | Adharbhut Higher | Maleth, Rajbiraj, | 38 |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------|
| | | Secondary School | Saptari | |
| 7 | 26 April 2017 | Laligurans Secondary English Boarding School | Maleth, Rajbiraj, Saptari | 36 |
| 8 | 28 April 2017 | Inaruwa English Boarding School | Inaruwa, Sunsari | 65 |
| | Total no. participants | | | 390 |





Activity 5: Radio Program

Radio programme is being aired in collaboration with a radio station named Popular FM 99.5 MHZ which is based in Inaruwa, Sunsari and has coverage in most of the project districts. One episode of about fifteen minutes every Saturday at 8:00 am is being run since January 2017 and it will run till June 2017. Key information on cause of vulture decline, stopping vulture toxic drugs and information on roles of stakeholders on vulture conservation conserving vultures in both the language Nepali and Maithali is being aired through this radio programme (Maithali is the local language here). In addition to this interviews with local key stakeholders for vulture conservation are also broadcasted through this programme.

Activity 6: Surveys of threats other than toxic NSAIDs to vultures

A questionnaire was developed to assess threats to small remaining populations of critically endangered vultures and administered with veterinary practitioners and local communities in the project area during April 2017. Altogether 168 people were interviewed and data on this is being analysed.