

Project Update: December 2017

1. Activities undertaken

- a) Material such as Laptop, Lenovo laptop (Thinkpad X220), Projectors, DSLR (Cannon D720 with 55 to 255 mm lens) and one GPS (Garmin 62cx) was procured for the programme. However, equipment and stationary will be used as a common pool resources in the range offices for conducting other researches and awareness programme.
- b) Conducted training on data collection and sampling procedures/survey protocol for 10 selected Research Assistants (**Figure 1**). The aims of the training is to present the aims and objectives of the study to researchers, so that the questionnaire setting will rectified and finalised for social data collection.



Figure 1: Research Assistant during the training on sampling protocol and questionnaires' setting. The RA were selected from the pool staff of Drujegang and Dagapela Range under Dagana Forest Division. Both the Forest Range Offices falls under the critical water areas of Dagachu, in which the pangolin is supposed to occupy

- c) Field official consultation meeting on the species conservation and anthropogenic threat ranking in the watershed areas with local government official, extension official from agriculture and livestock sectors of Drujegang and Dagapela Range, Dagana (**Figure 2: A & B**). The purpose of the consultation with Local Government's official was to inculcate their knowledge and ideas into the studies as well as to seek the guidance and supports for conducting social survey in respects to the targeted species (**Figure 2 A**). Further, some few targeted household were visited in order to seeks general information of the sighting of species, based on the local hearsay and elderly people (**Figure 2 B**).



Figure 2: Participant during the consultation meeting at field level (Sub-block Level). A: Local Government (LGs) Official consultation meeting. B: Household level consultation meeting in key-targeted household.

- d) Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on the study areas stratification for the sampling designing and for providing the general awareness training to the public of critical watershed areas (**Figure 3**).



Figure 3: Researchers presenting species to the community. Publics were raised awareness on the importance of species in ecosystem, presents the funding sources and the expected contribution of studies to community and ecosystem, if proven successful.

- e) Identified Focal Person (FP) for the field sampling and inventory of threat and habitat analysis of pangolin habitat (**Figure 4**). FPs were selected from among the communities in order to stratify the study areas for studying the occurrences (sighting coordinate) and habitat categorisation of species, as FPs were the peoples that has sighted pangolin in the region. FPs were selected through snowballing sampling methods.



Figure 4: Focal person for habitats stratification and key-informant for the social survey.



Activities to be carried out

- Field survey to carry out in January to March, 2018, after the field assessment and verification (Identification of sites, FGDs and critical areas for assessment) in first stage.
- Results presentation to the general public and local official regarding the status of pangolin in the areas. Further, species confirmation between Indian

- and Chinese pangolin.
- Installation of 2.4 km electric fencing, seed and seedling supports for winter crop for six households.
- Installation of sign board in pangolin sighting areas.

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8. Bjurugang Farmers Groups, Kana.