

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Dr. Krithi Karanth
Project Title	Public Safety Training and Awareness for Villages Facing High Human-Wildlife Conflict in Karnataka, India
Application ID	27603-D
Grant Amount	10,000
Email Address	krithi.karanth@cwsindia.org
Date of this Report	Feb 2022

1. Indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Content creation				Two CWS research fellows worked on the content and one artist created illustrations.
Translation				Available in Kannada, Marathi, Hindi, Konkani and Tamil.
Team building and Training				We trained two programme managers, six project coordinators and 14 educators.
Workshops Implemented				19 workshops in Bandipur, 21 in Nagarahole, 14 in BRT and 14 in MM Hills.
Community Networks				We covered 288 villages with ~2100 participants.
Evaluation				We conducted 1121 pre surveys and 980 surveys with participants for 87% response rate.

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

The pandemic imposed severe constraints on us through government-imposed lockdowns. The number of participants was restricted to 20-30 per workshop to ensure social distancing and other Covid 19 guidelines were followed. During the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, which hit rural India in April 2021, we had to pause all our workshops across Karnataka. While paused, we started a unique initiative called the Adopt-a-PHC, where we delivered essential medical supplies to 610 PHCs across Goa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. We restarted our workshops in Karnataka in August 2021 and ensured all our participants and team members adhered to all the COVID safety protocols at all times.

The entire country, including Karnataka, was under lockdown with severe travel restrictions. People were not allowed to gather due to the risk of spreading COVID-19 infections. For about 5 months, we had paused our Wild Surakshe workshops, but our field operations for Adopt-a-PHC initiative continued due to the special permissions from the local governments.

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- We were able to implement 68 workshops with five sessions in the originally proposed parks, but we expanded the programme to all 28 parks in Karnataka and in Goa.

- With the onset of the pandemic, we expanded the programme from human-wildlife conflict to include six common zoonotics found in the Western Ghats.
- We have created content and translated into five Indian languages.

4. What do you consider to be the most significant achievement of this work?

5. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

We have built a network of gram panchayat leaders, health and forest department staff, community Asha and Anganwadi workers. This includes ~ 2100 participants around these four parks.

6. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We will be scaling this to all wildlife reserves in the Ghats and completing this in three more states, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

7. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

Once the programme has been implemented in all 69 reserves, we will analyse the data and identify conflict and disease hotspots for the entire Western Ghats region. We have built connections to and partnerships with ~10,000 people and many local organisations. Wild Suraksha's findings will be shared with relevant government and private agencies, along with peer-reviewed scientific articles, reports, and publications to develop targeted long-term interventions to prevent future outbreaks and the rapid spread of zoonotic diseases.

8. Timescale: Over what period was the grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

September 2020 - March 2021.

9. Budget: Provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Salary for Field Assistants	4000	4000		
Food costs	500	500		

Travel	1000	1000		
Materials	3500	3500		
Office rent	1000	1000		
Total	10000	10000		

10. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

We are ambitiously scaling the Wild Surakshe program to 69 wildlife reserves in the Western Ghats. In 2021, we implemented 358 workshops in the states of Karnataka and Goa reaching ~ 10,000 participants. In 2022, we will implement the programme in the states of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Overall, we expect to complete 1500 workshops across the Ghats.

11. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Rufford Foundation was listed as a donor in our annual reports.

12. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Sumit Arora - Associate Director oversaw the integration of the Wild Connect platform to enable data collection and monitoring of workshops.

Mamatha Prasad - Program Manager managed teams and oversaw program implementation in field.

Nitya Satheesh - Program Manager managed teams and oversaw program implementation.

13. Any other comments?