

NOVEMBER 2019

ASSESSING DISTRIBUTION, HABITAT, AND THREATS TO CHINESE PANGOLIN IN KAMALA RIVER BASIN, CENTRAL NEPAL

FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT
JULY-SEPTEMBER 2019





QUARTERLY UPDATES

The team has completed many activities as per the plan.

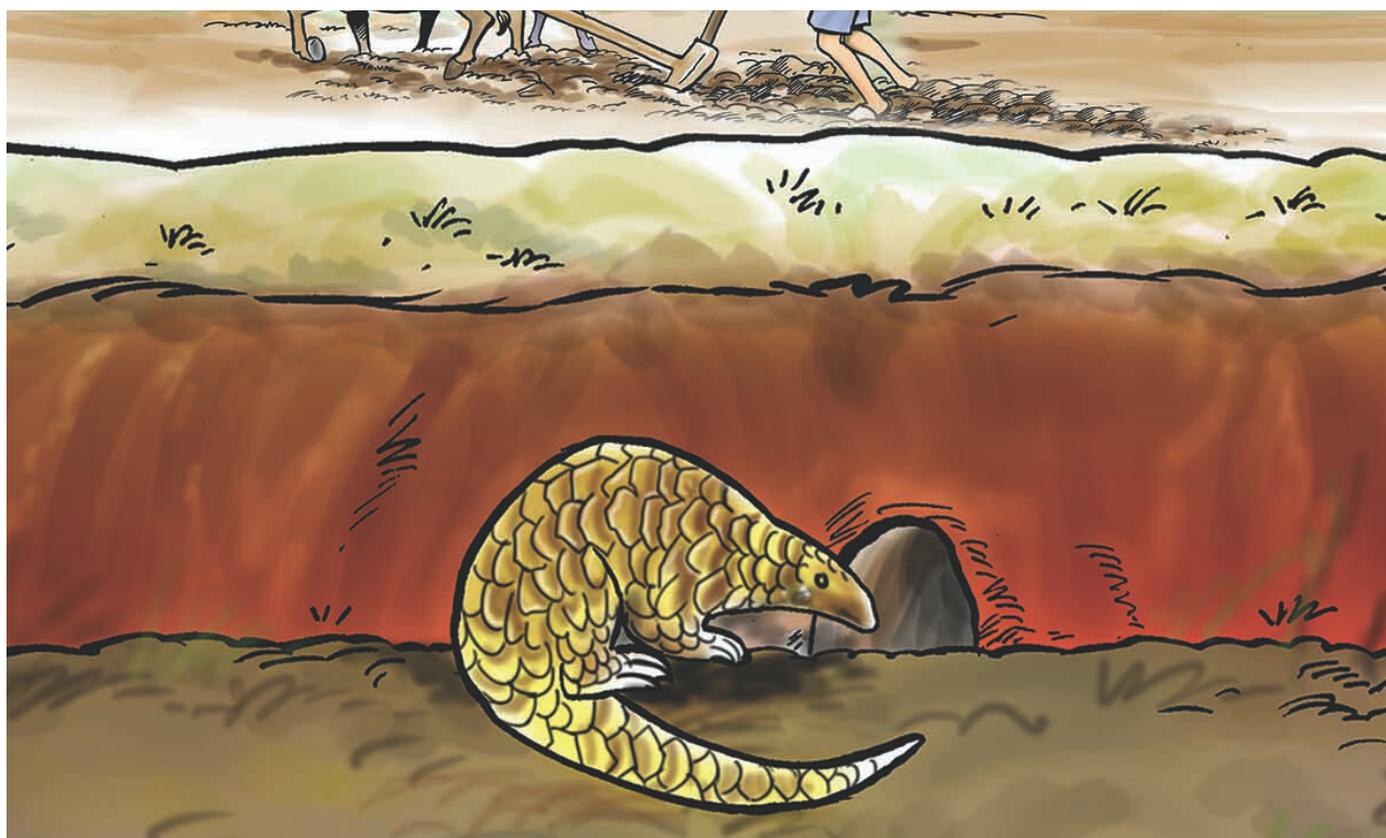
ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

1. DESIGNING AND PRINTING
2. COORDINATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS
3. STAKEHOLDERS MEETING
4. GIS MAPPING AND QUESTIONNAIRE FINALIZATION
5. FIELD PLANNING
6. WORKSHOP IN TWO DISTRICTS



DESIGNING AND PRINTING

The design of the sticker to be pasted in the desired location of the Kamala River Basin was made during this first quarterly period. This was done after collecting the inputs from the expert in the relevant field. Greenhood Nepal team also assisted with the technical support of the designs. After incorporating all the suggestions and the feedback from the experts the design and the message to be kept in the design were finalized. Then altogether 250 copies of the stickers were printed.



COORDINATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Partnership, coordination, and permission for the work with the relevant stakeholders were developed through a series of meetings. Divisional Forest Office (DFO) Sindhuli, Udayapur, Siraha, and Dhanusa were very happy to help us with this research. Other stakeholders like Community Forestry User Group (CFUG), women's group and another group also assured us for their support throughout this research. Importantly, Greenhood Nepal also assured to help technically and logistically for the better result of this research.

STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

Meeting with the stakeholders like DFO, CFUGs relevant experts were done throughout this period for the smooth functioning and the better of this research. Their feedbacks and the suggestion were also incorporated.

GIS MAPPING AND QUESTIONNAIRE FINALIZATION

Before going to the field, important field materials like GIS mapping of the research area was done. Other materials like questionnaire preparation and the finalization were also done in this period. The template of the National Pangolin Survey, 2016 was taken as a reference for the development of the questionnaire. The draft version of it was finalized after a series of discussions and consultations with the team members and the relevant experts.

FIELD PLANNING

After regular meetings with the team members, field plans for the first quarterly period works were done. Our team decided to complete the workshop in at least two districts in the first quarterly period. The remaining work ie. field data collection, the remaining workshop was planned to be done in the second quarter of this research. The team decided to choose Sindhuli and Udayapur for the first quarter and Dhanusha and Siraha for the second quarter of this research period.



WORKSHOP IN TWO DISTRICT

Altogether two out of four workshops were completed in this time period. One workshop was done in the Sindhuli districts and next was done in Udayapur district. Moreover, the team has decided to organize another workshop in Sindhuli district. The reason behind organizing one more workshop in Sindhuli was, this district is considered to be one of the prime habitats of pangolin in Nepal and on the other hand people from this district was also caught for getting involved in the illegal wildlife trade in the past. Another reason besides doing two workshops in this district alone is, according to the DFO Siraha they haven't recorded the presence of Pangolin in Siraha. Thus, under consultation with the team and the experts, the plan was changed to organize two workshops in Sindhuli and team will not organize one in Siraha as DFO Siraha does not have a record of pangolin. Among two completed workshops, one was done in Janata Secondary School of Ranibas, Sindhuli. Total of 36 students from class 8, 9 and 10 participated in the workshop. Here, a student club for biodiversity conservation was also formed in this workshop. Similarly, another workshop in Shree Secondary School of Patnabhanjyang, Katari-8, Udayapur districts where 77 students from class 7-10 actively participated. In these participatory workshop, students were shared about the status of the pangolin in the local, national as well as the international level. The conservation importance and benefits were also shared in the session. In addition, the legal concern associated with this species was also highlighted. Students were very excited to get the knowledge about this species and shared they will now play their part for the conservation of the world's most trafficked mammal species.



CHALLENGES

Monsoon and the uncertain weather made it harder to work in the field. Uncertain weather something forced us to make quick decisions.

According to the DFO Siraha, they do not have a record of the presence of Chinese pangolin in their districts.

“

Changes

Since Siraha doesn't have pangolins, then the work that was planned to be done there will be replaced by another district. For now, the team has decided to do the workshop in the next pangolin hub of Sindhuli district.

”



FURTHER PLANS

- After completing two workshops with the students, the next workshops are planned to be done with the local people and the CFUGs who are living together with the pangolins in the second quarter of this research period
- Data collection in all districts is also planned to be conducted in the second quarter



“

we received a good feedback, suggestions and support from all the stakeholders and local people of pangolin habitat

”

