

## Final Evaluation Report

---

Your Details	
<b>Full Name</b>	Satemmenla Longchar
<b>Project Title</b>	Monitoring indigenous hunting and community conservation in Nagaland India
<b>Application ID</b>	28975-1
<b>Date of this Report</b>	12/7/2022

**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
Documenting wildlife in the study areas using trap cameras.				We were able to document the wild mammal diversity in two study areas. We could also photograph the first sun bear records in Nagaland. We could also discover the 2nd highest peak in Nagaland within the study area, along with the wildlife documentation.
Questionnaire survey on methods of traditional hunting and usage and the drivers of hunting and preferences of wild mammals.				We sampled villages that were close to the forest areas for this objective.
Using an acoustic sensor recorder to monitor the hunting signs inside the forest				This activity could not be executed after 1 month of trial in the forest, as the exercise was getting expensive to monitor, and we could not filter the required data, which is the recorded gunshots. We took an alternative method of documenting the hunting in the forest- marking the campsites inside the park/ community forest.
Engaging tribal communities in wildlife conservation. Attitudes and perception				This activity in my proposal turned out pleasantly great. Initially, with the pandemic, we could not execute as planned, such as meetings, having educational activities and seminars with the locals. However, with the finding of certain species and landmarks in the community forest, we could convey the importance of these areas and wildlife conservation through social media circulation and word of mouth. We got support from the concerned village elders and church members to put effort into protecting their forests and wildlife.

Assisting forest managers in protecting the park				All data collected were submitted to the forest department of Nagaland, which gave them a checklist of the wildlife found in the area, which has scant data.
Extra activity/objective				We were able to execute a small programme on livelihood with the women on mushroom cultivation.

**2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.**

- a). I can execute my fieldwork which is the most crucial part of my PhD.
- b). I was able to reach out to some villages effectively for biodiversity conservation through the fieldwork exploration, inspiring some local youth to pick up wildlife conservation field (aspiring wildlife documentary maker and employee of a wildlife conservation organisation).
- c). I was able to organise a livelihood programme on mushroom making. This allowed some local youth and some women to start their businesses or grow their food. We trained 54 people.

**3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.**

Covid19 was a significant difficulty during the project period. Fieldwork was delayed, and our team often could not halt in villages due to the government and the village rules.

**4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.**

- All my field assistants, forest trackers and porters are from the local communities. As Covid made many youths unemployed, this project gave them an opportunity to earn during the project period.
- We trained four field assistants to learn how to grow oyster mushrooms using available natural resources, and they taught 54 more. This was a great help as we could assist in their livelihood or, in some cases, provide nutrients as a substitute for wild meat in those rural areas.
- Our work in the community forest got recognised by the neighbouring villages and the entire state of Nagaland, as we recorded the 2nd highest mountain peak in Nagaland (3462m, Khelia mountain) inside the community reserve. This triggered positive responses from the community to preserve their forest and promote their forest with the mountain as a tourist attraction.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Hopefully, yes.

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

Through scientific publications as well as through popular article writing.

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

- The next step is spreading awareness of wildlife conservation with a practical approach targeting younger generations through nature education.
- Another step is promoting skills to earn livelihood for the unemployed youth using available resources.
- Afforestation of forest by planting native trees in abandoned jhum fields.
- Exploring more biodiversity in this region as many areas are still understudied and unexplored.

**8. 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?**

I did not produce any materials for the logo, but I have mentioned to the administration officers and the mushroom workshop attendees that Rufford Foundation supports the project.

The foundation name will be mentioned in all the paper publications related to this fieldwork.

**9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.**

**Satem Longchar-** Researcher

**Prof. Dr Matt Hayward-** Lead supervisor

**Prof Qamar Qureshi-** Advisor+ collaborator

**Kediphe-** Field assistant

**Joshua –** Field assistant

**Lungsoi -** Field assistant

**Thangsoi-** Field assistant

**Pheniang-** Field assistant

**David** - Forest tracker

**Mongli**- Forest tracker

**Thangpong**- Forest tracker

**Pathan**- Forest tracker

**Payo**- Forest tracker

**Noksa** – Forest tracker

**Lal Boi**- Forest guide

**Shingnyoh**- Forest guide

**Goan bura Wui**- Forest guide

**Song Newmai**- Forest porter

**Lt. Meliang shiu**- Village advisor

#### **10. Any other comments?**

Personally, many people have helped our team. Our fieldwork also coincided with the pandemic lockdown, and we were juggling between the lockdown period, Covid-19 quarantines, and fieldwork. We are grateful to many individuals (known and unknown) who have helped us by providing food, medical assistance, transportation, and great company.

We sincerely thank the village elders of Beisuimpukam, Khelma, new Soget, Pelhang, Choklangan, Kingpao and Wui for allowing us to enter their forest.

Thank you to the Noklak District administration team headed by District Commissioner Reny Wilfred. We collaborated on the mushroom-making workshop with them.

Our team would also like to thank the Indian Military Assam Rifle, D-coy, Commanding officer, Major Shullai and team for helping us and providing food supplies during the pandemic lockdown, as the village where we were staying was out of rations.

We are very grateful to The Rufford foundation for this excellent chance to explore an area where there are hardly any studies and documentation and to involve the local Naga communities in this project. Thank you.