

## Project Update: October 2021

### STATUS

Data collection and analysis.

### PROGRESS

I am working with staff of Keonjhar Forest Division office who are taking the GPS locations of elephants. By considering the Covid situation, we have only discussed with the village heads in the regions which are highly impacted by elephant attack. Also, we talked to a few famers regarding the problems in improving their wellbeing. We collected information (demographic data; population, male/female, no. of workers/farmers, no. of marginal farmers/agricultural labor, and household workers) along with overall perception and emotion of villagers towards elephants. Now we are communicating with more villagers as well as few key personnel (rangers, forest guards, researchers, NGOs and activists).

### SOME OUTCOMES

We used compensation data from 2001 to 2018, which were registered immediately after victim's reporting the particular incident to a Range Officer from local forest division. These reports consisted of locations, forest range, date, crop damage, frequency of crop raiding, number of houses damaged (partial/fully), human death, human injury and amount of compensation paid to victims.

Approximately 500 villages distributed within all forest range inside the study area, which were found to be affected by HEC from 2000-2018. More than 300 human death and injury incidents and around 4100 house damage incidents were recorded. Crop land destruction was notably higher with the 12,710 acres of crop land destroyed by elephants and 31,400 crop raiding incidents reported between 2005 and 2018. Now, we are categorising the dataset as per the season (rainy, winter and summer) and also according to seven forest ranges. The overall trends seem to be decreasing from 2001, until now with the collected data. The intensity of house damage, human death and injury has found to have declined, while the crop raiding situation as per the sorted, found to have severely intensified since 2009.

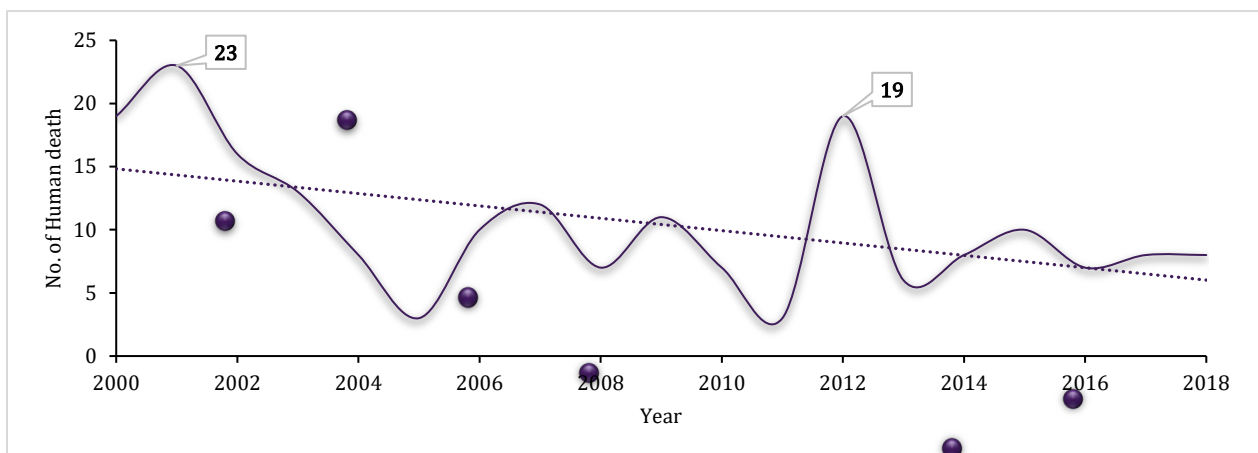


Figure.1: Annual trend of human death

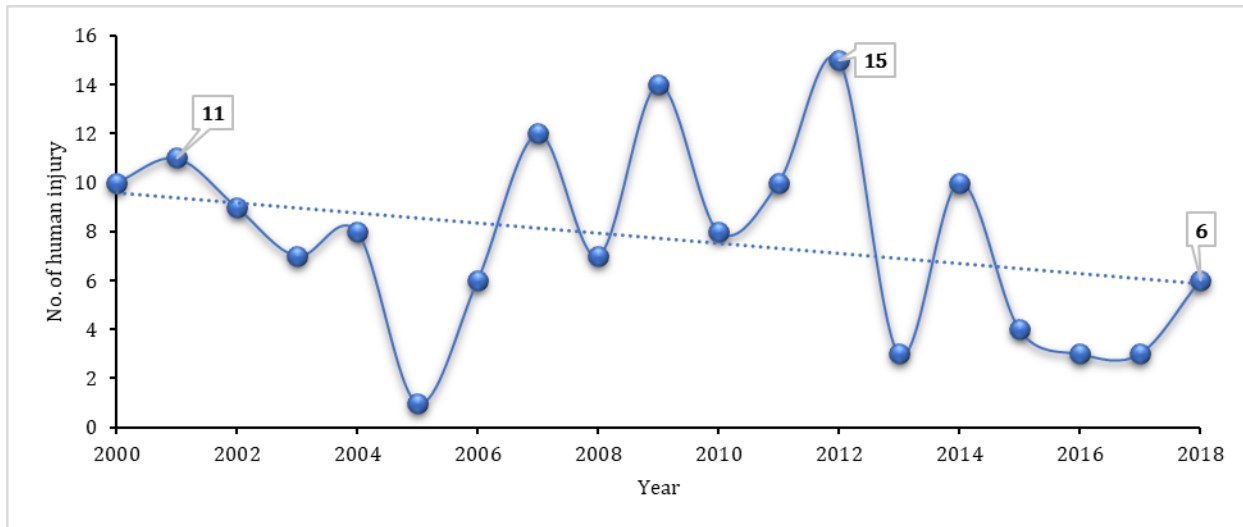


Figure.2: Annual human injury trend in Keonjhar District from 2001-2018

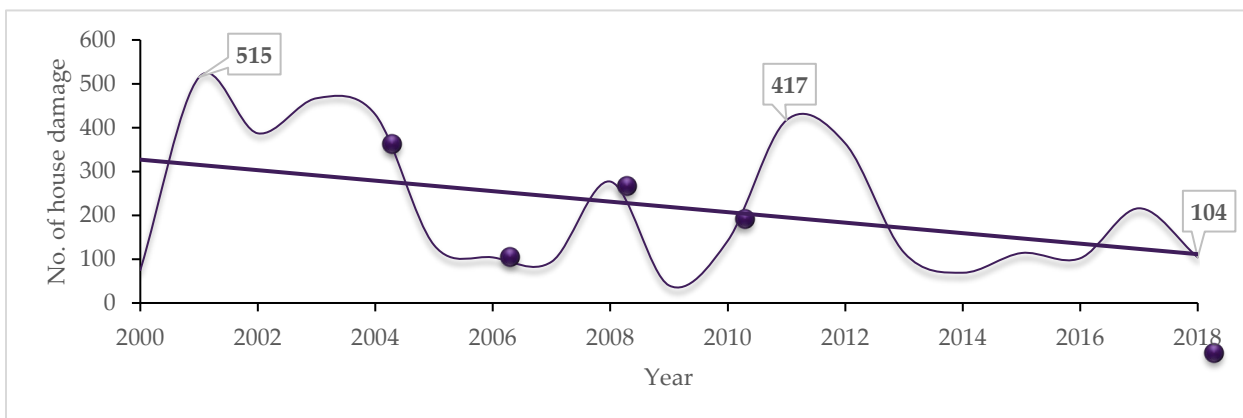


Figure.3: Annual house damage trend in Keonjhar District from 2000-2018







