

Project Update: May 2014

This study covered Lhamoyzingkha and Senge Geogs under the administrative jurisdiction of Sarpang Dzongkhag along the southern border of the biological corridor which is also close to the international border with India and towards the northern border of the biological corridor in Lamoilum, Patshalingtoe and Tongshingnang chiwogs under Tsirang Dzongkhag. The data collection used pre-tested structured questionnaire for household survey and the questions were mainly directed to document types and quantity of crops damaged, and the type and number of wild animals encountered by farmers. In Sarpang Dzongkhag, wild elephants are documented as the major problem (70%) followed by wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), monkey (*Macaca mulata*) and barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjac*) while in Tsirang Dzongkhag wild pigs are the major problems (91%), followed by barking deer, macaque and porcupine (*Hystrix indica*). In Sarpang Dzongkhag, the main crops damaged were paddy, maize and cash crops such as banana and the crop loss per household per year was estimated to be 297.5 kg while in Tsirang Dzongkhag the main crops damaged were maize which is estimated to be 278.4 kg per household per year.



Figure 1. Maize crop damaged by elephant in Singye Geog, Sarpang (Photo by Kuenley Gyeltshen). Figure 2. Banana crop damaged by elephant in Singye Geog, Sarpang (Photo by Kuenley Gyeltshen)



Figure 3. Forestry official inspecting footprints of elephants in Singye Geog, (Photo by Kuenley Gyeltshen). Figure 4. Maize crops damaged by wild pig in Tsirang Dzongkhag (Photo by Sacha Dorji)



Figure 5. Maize crop field damaged by wild pig in Tsirang Dzongkhag which is being inspected by a farmer (Photo by Sacha Dorji)