

Project Update: May 2015

A. Human Elephant Coexistence Trainings

Six units of human-elephant coexistence training were organised in Nirmalbasti and Thori area of Chitwan's Buffer zone. A total of 437 persons were trained directly on different techniques of human-elephant coexistence - the training was done during a peak conflict season i.e. winter. All these events were organised in close coordination with Chitwan National Park (CNP), National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) and Nirmal Thori Buffer Zone Users Committee (BZUC). Mr Babu Ram Lamichhae, Research Officer of NTNC was the principal resource person accompanied by Mr Prakash Limbu (Ranger of CN), Mr Hari Prasad Khanal (Chairman of Nirmal Thori BZUC) and Bikram Lama (Office Assistant of Nirmal Thori BZUC).



Figure 1: A training session on human-elephant coexistence in Nirmalbasti-4, Bramhanagar, Nayabasti, Parsa.

Figure 2: Chairperson of Nirmal Thori BZUC (front right) and trainer Mr Babu Ram Lamichhane (front left) describing locals about the elephant behaviour and ways to avoid conflict after an incident of human injury caused by elephant in Thori.



The training covered different aspects of elephant conservation, elephant behaviour and ecology, causes of conflict, avoiding conflict with elephants, government relief mechanism and initiatives of BZUC to minimise conflict. Following table gives details of the training events.

SN	Date	Location	Number of Participants
1	24/12/2014	Nirmalbasti - 4, Brahmanagar, Naya Basti	70
2	25/12/2014	Nirmalbasti - 1, Ramnagar	103
3	26/12/2014	Nirmalbasti -4, Brahmanagar	80
4	27/12/2014	Thori-9, Ichhanagar	45
5	27/12/2014	Thori-5, Dipanagar	62
6	28/12/2014	Thori-3, Sarswatinagar	77
		Total	437

Following map shows the locations of six events (P1 to P6).

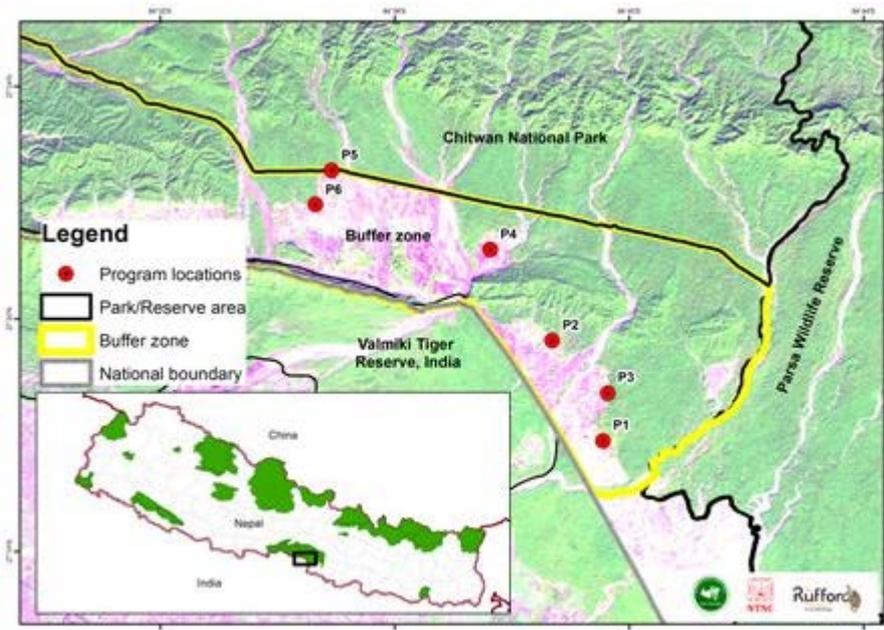


Figure 3: Map showing the HECx training locations (P1 to P6).

B. Brochure, poster & radio program

A brochure in local Nepali language is published by Chitwan National Park and National Trust for Nature Conservation from financial support of this project. These brochures were widely distributed in project area during and after the coexistence training events. Similarly, six posters were also developed and used during the training sessions. These posters were handed over to buffer zone user's committee for display purpose. The posters and brochures are also available from my blog (<http://jungalihatti.blogspot.com/>) to all concerned.

A local radio station 'Madi Community FM' has been contracted to start radio based early warning and awareness on human elephant coexistence. This FM programme will start in June 2015 and continue until August 2015.