

**A progress Report on**  
**Community Based Strategy for Conservation of Lesser Adjutant**  
**Stork (*Leptoptilos Javanicus*) in Eastern Lowland of Nepal -**  
**Updates September 2015 to January 2016 (Phase 4)**



*Project funded by*



*Report prepared by*

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*Supported by:*  
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## Overview

The goal of the project is to formulate a relevant and sustainable LAS Community Based Conservation Program to protect and conserve the species of LAS in the eastern lowlands of Nepal. It is designed to ensure interventions for LAS conservation are appropriate, relevant and effective. Following the successful completion of quarter 1-3 and achieving all the targets, the fourth quarter of project in last six months (from October to December) of the project had mainly focused radio program, intensive awareness program with social media and documentary preparation. Few major challenges were experienced due to the acute fuel shortages in Nepal for the project team resulting to difficulties in logistics and transportation. Nevertheless, during this period, the project team had prepared and broadcasted radio programs from local FM Radio for three (3) months on weekly basis. Similarly, the documentary on Lesser Adjutant Storks was accomplished and conservation activities were carried out and shared through various social media and through local television in Eastern Nepal as planned.

## Project Components – Phase 4

The primary focus of activities in the second quarter and third quarter of the project implementation included the following

1. Radio Program
2. Documentary production
3. Dissemination of project information through media and local news paper
4. Linking of conservation project outputs to social media platforms e.g. Facebook
5. Problems encountered and action taken
6. Recommendations and Conclusion

The expected project outputs from the above activities were realized within the project schedule and cost estimates. During project implementation, Earthquake struck Nepal in April 2015 and project was drastically affected and experienced delays for one month while the project team and local communities struggle to get back to normal situation amidst the devastations across the country. The situational report submitted provided the insights and action taken in mitigating project risks. Enclosed are site photographs and brief descriptions of activities (see annexures and tables attached).

**Table 1. Project Implementation Matrix 2015**

Quarter 1 (Completed)			Quarter 2 (Completed)			Quarter 3 (completed)				Quarter 4 (Completed)	
December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov (extended of Mid January)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of conservation cum research team</li> <li>• Training for conservation and research team</li> <li>• Check list and questionnaire development</li> <li>• Linking our conservation project with social media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary field visit in existing colonies of the LAS</li> <li>• Preliminary field visit report preparation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with communities</li> <li>• Meeting with experts</li> <li>• Conservation awareness material preparation</li> <li>• Submission of first quarter report to donor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with experts</li> <li>• Meeting with communities</li> <li>• Finalization of conservation awareness material (posters, banner, hoarding boards)</li> <li>• Field Visits</li> <li>• Conservation awareness program in eastern lowlands of Nepal ( in schools, communities, community forest user groups, and other identified stakeholders)</li> <li>• Formation of conservation awareness group in each location                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of second quarter report to donor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final research report preparation based on field visit</li> <li>• Local conservation group formation</li> <li>• Publication Declaration of LAS conservation area and Installation of hoarding boards</li> <li>• Submission of quarterly report (August)</li> <li>•</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio program</li> <li>• Publications news in local newspaper and media</li> <li>• Documentary preparation</li> <li>• Final report submission to Rufford</li> <li>• Submission manuscript for the publications in journal</li> </ul>	

Shantosh Karki, LAS Conservation Team Leader, 2015

## 1. Radio Program

After having first preliminary field visit and consultations with local community people, technical experts to formulate a concrete plan for community based awareness program, it was finally accomplished during the fourth phase. Given the Awareness Program, project team had prepared and broadcasted radio programs from local FM Radio(Saptarangi FM-Damak, Jhapa) for three (3) months on weekly basis. It provided highlights on general information of LAS, its nesting site, conservation issues, and emphasized on importance of LAS. The Radio Program also included interviews with local community, local bird experts including professors and students of Damak Multiple Campus, Mechi Multiple Campus and Post Graduate Campus, Biratnagar.

Radio program is available on youtube also <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftMplBzQt6o>

भुडीफोर गरुड र यसको वास स्थानको संरक्षण गरौं  
Conserve Lesser Adjutant Storks and its habitat

## संरक्षणका लागि रेडियो कार्यक्रम Radio Program



सप्तङ्गी एफ एम  
१०१.६ मेगा हर्ज

**Saptarangi FM  
101.6MHZ**

*Organized by:*



*Supported by:*





**Broadcasting awareness program from Local FM, Saptarangi FM, Damak**



## 2. Documentary Production

A 15 minute long documentary was accomplished and shared through the social media and local television in Nepal. The documentary demonstrates the project objectives and its outcomes, project activities, habitat of LAS and its conservation threat and role of community on LAS conservation.

### भुडीफोर गरुड र यसको वास स्थानको संरक्षण गरौं Conserve Lesser Adjutant Storks and its habitat

### भुडी फोर गरुडको संरक्षणका सम्बन्धमा निर्मीत डकुमेन्ट्री A documentary on conservation awareness



*Produced by:*



*Supported by:*



#### Link of Documentary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Etc49D3x0cs&feature=youtu.be>

### 3. Dissemination of project information through media and local news paper

In local and national newspaper article related to the project were published in local language Nepali for broad and wide understanding of local communities



Article published on People's time, a national daily





#### 4. Linking conservation activities with Social Media

To visualize and aware wider audiences and stakeholders, a Facebook group and a Facebook page on Conservation of lesser adjutant storks have been developed. And all the conservation activities have been posted.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Save-Lesser-Adjutant-Stork-and-its-habitat-in-Nepal/335708713281733>

#### 5. Problems encountered and action taken

Due to the fuel crisis in Nepal which began in September 2015 which has extended for more than five (5) months within the project duration, escalated challenges in logistics and transportation for the project implementation which resulted to increased cost of transportation to reach to the project activity sites. Local transportation such as motorbike and bicycle were used and private vehicle were hired to reach the venue and conduct awareness activities to ensure further delays are mitigated.

#### 6. Recommendations and Conclusions

Overall, the project objectives were significantly achieved, particularly in formulating conservation strategy and creating awareness in local communities, indeed the project is a success. Consultations with community and experts were crucial and important steps towards establishing and strengthening of the conservation efforts of the LAS in eastern Nepal. In order to ensure sustainability, one of the key activities is the formation of local conservation groups to carry on the advocacy in the community and regional levels. It is further envisaged that regular engagement with local communities, campaigns and trainings for other local conservation groups, local government agencies and other relevant stakeholders in the region are required in future.