

## **Project Update: January 2017**

1. During May and June 2016 we reviewed all the available literature about illegal wildlife trade, governmental rules, regulations and provisions of punishments, relevant international conventions and reports. We also collected primary data via direct talks with the governmental and non-governmental officials including other relevant professionals renowned for their contribution in wildlife.
2. From July to September 2016 illegal wildlife trade seizure data of last 10 years was collected from major national newspapers in Nepal, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Gaurishankar Conservation Area, District Forest Office, Crime Investigation Bureau and other relevant organisational archives. The data was further accessed in MS Excel.
3. In July 2016, our team leader Mr. Kumar Paudel participated in 'Illegal wildlife trade in Asia: Searching for Solutions' symposium at "Joint Meeting of Society for Conservation Biology Asia Section Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation Asia-Pacific Chapter." There, he notably presented a talk on "Monitoring Illegal Wildlife Trade in Nepal-China Border Region."
4. Mr Paudel gave an interview about the illegal wildlife trade in Radio Nepal on the auspicious occasion of World Environment Day (WED), 2016. The talk focused on the theme of WED 2016 "Go Wild for Life: Fight Against Illegal Wildlife Trade". He shared his views on wildlife crime, potential incentives from wildlife, and conservation initiatives in Nepal. The full conversation can be easily accessed on <http://radionepal.gov.np/>
5. A short audio-visual " Don't Carry the Trouble | Savadhan (Be Aware)" was published in YouTube on World Environment Day 2016 and shared in social medias. The video presented the case of transportation of wildlife parts in local transport along Kathmandu-border of Tibet. The video was also screened in different programs to aware the bus truck transportation stakeholders. Additionally, Mr Paudel succeed to publish an op-ed about the illegal storage of wildlife parts in Nepal Magazine.
6. One-day sensitisation workshop was organised at Barabise Sindhupalchowk to alert community against the illegal wildlife trade. The entire workshop involved presentations and group discussions.
7. We produced a PSA in Nepali and Tamang (Local Language) languages about the punishment for precipitating in IWT. It was broadcast through Radio Namobuddha (106.7) which covers Kavrepalanchok, Sindhupalchok, Dolakha and Bhaktpur districts. Additionally, we have designed, printed and disseminated posters to spread the same message.
8. Following the massive earthquake of 2015, Khasa port of Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR), China has been closed with no any official business. Taking advantage of this situation, wildlife traders were reported in TAR via Sindhupalchok and Dolakha. We presented this issue with CIB, DFO and relevant stakeholders in district headquarter and they are positive to control it.



**Left:** District Forest Officer of Dolakha and seized pelt of Deer, **Middle:** Newspaper review. **Right:** Kumar Paudel giving an interview in Radio Nepal



**Left:** Literature review **Middle:** Kumar Paudel talking with range post officials about wildlife trade. **Right:** Participants at bus/truck drivers workshop.



**Left:** Use of animal's pelt in Nepal-TAR border region. **Right:** Kumar Paudel talking about illegal wildlife trade in Nepal-China Border at Conservation Asia 2016.



**Left:** Workshop. **Middle:** Article **Right:** Poster with information of punishment for IWT.