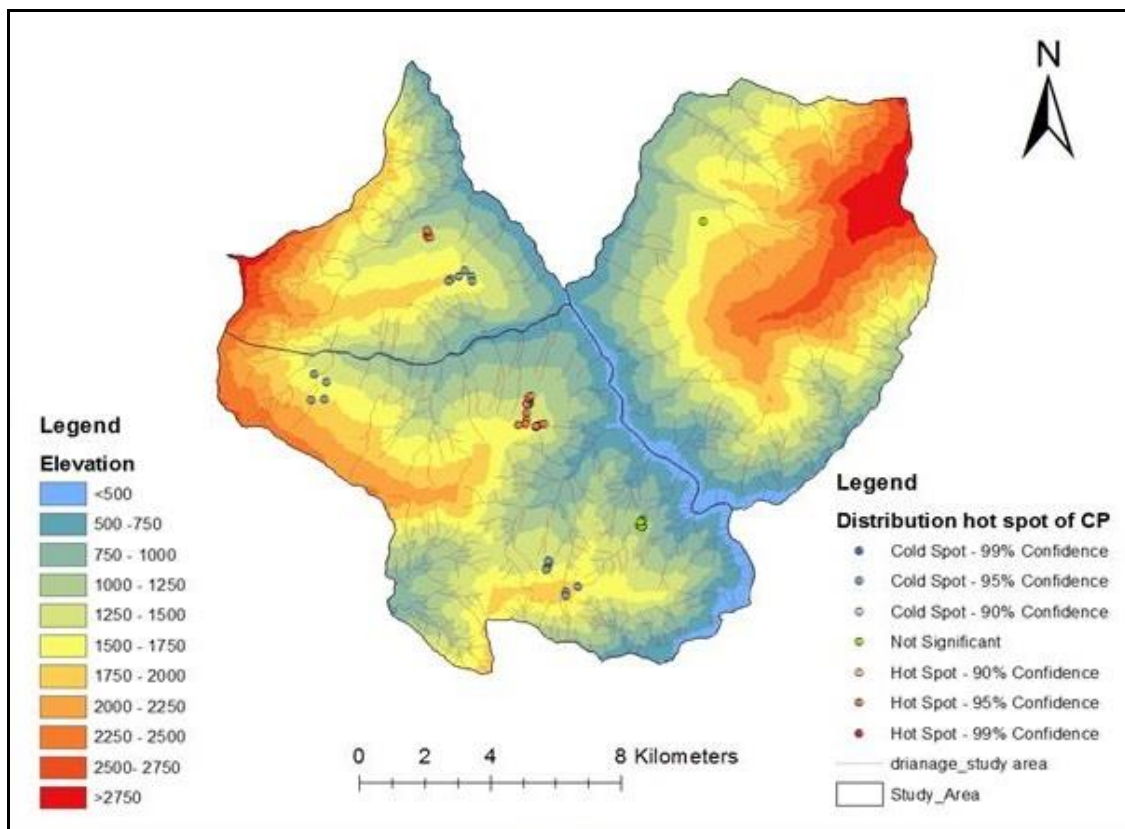


## Project Update: May 2017

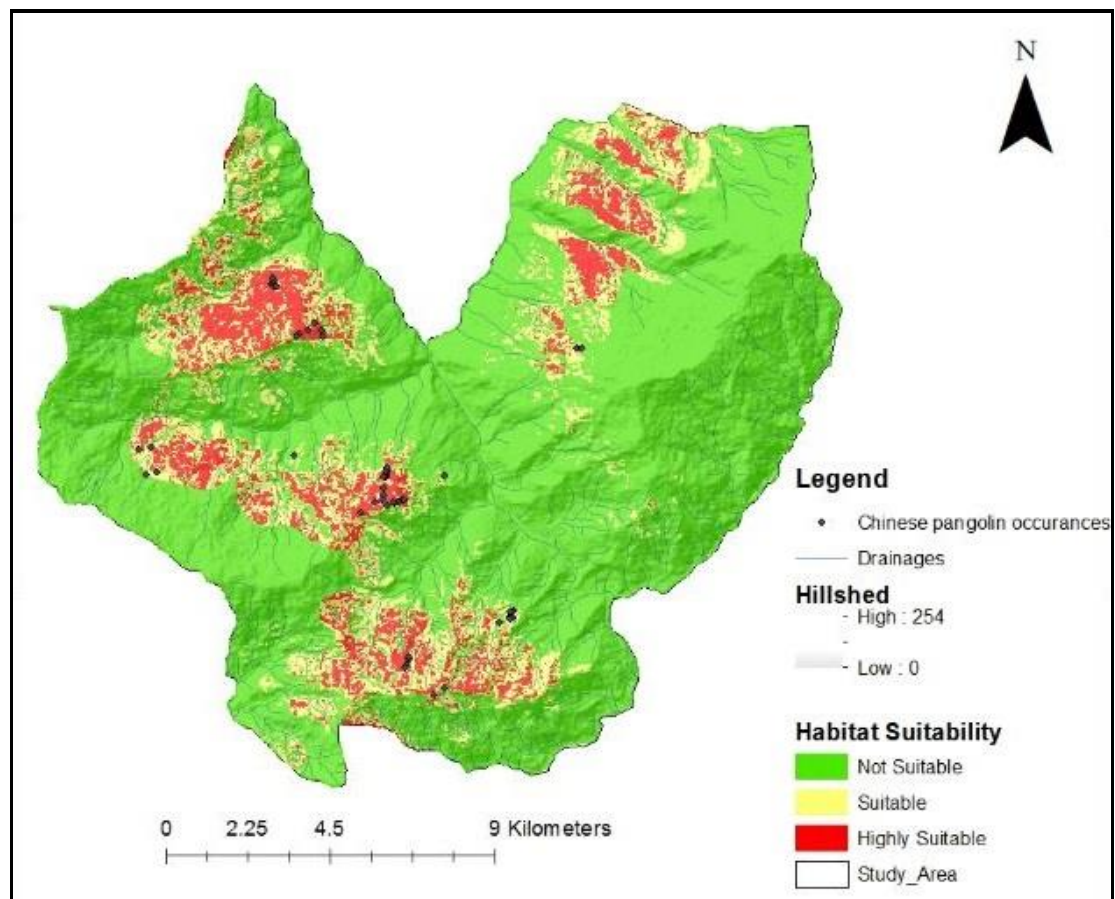
A preliminary survey was carried out initially in study area with discussion with Dorokha forest range staff, local people and community forest members. An extensive search method was conducted with involvement of local people to record the distribution of pangolin in the study area from January to April 2017.

Eight transects were randomly laid out in the selected potential sites to assess the habitat preference and to estimates the burrow density of Chinese pangolin. A total 181 burrows (161 feeding burrows, 20 living burrows) and two direct sighting were recorded in the proposed study area. Vegetation survey was conducted in all transects to assess the habitat preference.

Chinese pangolin was encountered in very low density and were distributed in few wards of Dorokha Sub-district with burrow density of 0.104/ha. The distribution of burrow was highest in the forest dominated by *Schima wallichii*, *Castanopsis hytrix* and *Cinnamomum bejolghota*. The distribution of Chinese pangolin was highly influenced by the altitude, aspect and amount of the termite's availabilities. Habitat modelling revealed 23.57 km<sup>2</sup> of the study area was highly suitable and 37.88 km<sup>2</sup> as suitable habitat for the species. The remaining study area of 194.98 km<sup>2</sup> was not suitable habitat for target species.



Distribution of Chinese pangolin in study area



Habitat Suitability Map



Observation of Pangolin burrow and its prey



Direct sighting of Chinese pangolin in Dumtoed block



Direct sighting of Chinese pangolin near settlement in Dophuchen block