

## Project Update: February 2017

The project activities December 2016 and January and February 2017 have been accomplished according to the mentioned schedule after getting permission from the Department of Forest, Nepal which is as follows:

**Consultation Meeting:** To share the objectives of research, to know the ground reality of the study area about human-elephant conflict and to effectively implement the project consultation meeting have been conducted with District Forest Office (DFO), Bardiya, Khata Community Forest Coordination Committee (KCFCC), Dhodari and Community Forest Coordination Community (CFCC), Khairichandanpur.



Consultation meeting with DFO, Bardiya



Consultation meeting with CFCC, Khairichandanpur

**Direct Observation:** Direct observation was performed to collect the incidents data including spatial location using Global Positioning System such as crop raiding, property damage (damages of stored food and damages of house) and human casualties (death and injured). Likewise, field data regarding to anthropogenic threat to elephant have been collected laying quadrat randomly in the forest.



Recording spatial location of crop raiding area



Recording spatial location of property damage



Laying quadrat for habitat disturbance analysis    Measuring tree diameter

**Key Informants Interview (KII):** Using checklist and open ended questions to know the knowledge/experience on human-elephant conflict (its types, causes, threats to elephant, adopted preventive and mitigation measures) KII was conducted with politician, teacher, badhghar (leader of Tharu community), Community Forest Users Group (CFUG) representatives and government forest officials.



KII with ex-member of parliament



KII with CFUG representatives

**Household Survey:** After identifying the affected area and settlement of human-elephant conflict questionnaire survey was conducted with randomly selected household and the elderly/experience/middle age person (irrespective of gender) was chosen for interview maintaining sampling intensity of 10% in each settlement as well as verbal consent of the respondents were taken before conducting interview.



Household survey



**Some glimpses during the execution of project:**



Crop (Wheat) raiding by wild elephant



House damages by wild elephant



Preventive measures (Electrical fencing)



Guarding post (watch tower)



Captured Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) in Khata Protected Forest, Nepal