

Project Update: October 2017

During the last few months, the major field activities performed by our project team were household survey, key informant interviews, group discussions, field observations, awareness programmes, distribution of brochures and posters, 1-day workshop and speech context in schools. Purposive random sampling method was used for household survey and 325 households were randomly selected out of 1457 affected households for questionnaire survey from based on official record of district forest office, Jhapa, Nepal. The questionnaire was prepared in Nepali language that focused on the nature and extent of crop and property damage as well as people's perception about damage compensation schemes. Similarly, 20 key informant interviews were conducted representing the elite people of all affected areas for collecting site-specific detail information about causes, effects, yearly and seasonal damage trend and local mitigation measures adopted against human-elephant conflict (HEC). Similarly, 10 group discussions were conducted to triangulate the information collected from household survey and key informant interviews.



Left: Project leader Mr. Bijaya Neupane sharing the project updates in the workshop. © Rajeev Upreti. Right: Prizes and award certificates distributed to the winners of speech competition in the school. © Rajeev Upreti.



Left: Local elites providing information on present issues of HEC. © Bishowdip Chaudhary. Right: Elephant watch tower constructed in the study area.



Left: Observing and monitoring paddy crop damaged by transboundary elephants. © Sweta Shrestha. Right: Observing and monitoring the paddy crop damaged by resident elephants of Jalthal forest. © Sweta Shrestha.



Grasses covering the solar-powered electric fence in some areas.