

Project Update: July 2017

- i. Meetings with forest officials and local government heads have been conducted and completed.
- ii. Semi-structured questionnaire survey for perception study on conservation for both members and non-members of community forest management group have been completed in both the identified community forests as planned. A total of 51 CFMG members were interviewed from the two identified CFs with sets of questionnaires consisting of 95 questions.
- iii. Camera trap works have been completed in both the CFs to study wildlife composition and data retrieved twice - first data downloading on 24th April 2017 and second on 25th May 2017. All wild animals captured in the cameras are assessed and analysed. During the data downloading, particularly during the first data downloading exercise, data on different parameters (forest composition, slope percent, evidence of wildlife presence, degree of human disturbance etc.) of the specific camera location was also collected. Sixteen species of wild animals including red fox, leopard cat, and Himalayan monal pheasant were captured in the camera traps. Most common or maximum sightings are sambar, barking deer, and wild boar.

Data collection and field work on camera traps were carried out by UWICE field researchers. However, some parts of data collection and field works were also conducted by American undergraduate students who were in Bhutan for attending a 3-month semester program on environmental field studies.

Some pictures of animals from the camera traps and social interview are attached herewith.



Red Fox



Tragopan



Leopard Cat



Wild boar



Sambar



Himalayan black bear (Asiatic bear)



Social interview