

## Final Evaluation Report

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Your Details	
Full Name	Suraj Baral
Project Title	Living with Crocodiles: Crocodiles in Urban fringes around Suklaphanta National Park, Nepal
Application ID	23342-1
Grant Amount	£ 5000
Email Address	baral.hector@gmail.com
Date of this Report	19 Feb. 20

**1. Indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.**

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Habitat and population assessment within the landscape				We have completely assessed the habitat and population measures for the mugger crocodile in the study area. We are currently writing a paper to disseminate the results.
Evaluation and mitigation measures for human-crocodile conflicts				A total of 245 questionnaires were collected to evaluate the status and mitigation measures of human-crocodile conflicts from the study area.
Promoted crocodile conservation by local people and relevant stakeholders				We had a much more reach for conservation awareness programme than we expected through our regional media partner from the site area.

**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.**

A few difficulties were seen during the project implications. We tackled those issues with talks with our concerned stakeholders and partners and find a solution that fitted to all the stakeholders.

**3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.**

The most important outcome of the project in my view would be the first record of socio-economic aspect of crocodile conservation in human dominated landscapes which can be model for such studies outside the current project. These studies are lacking yet as per our current knowledge.

The second important outcome of the project was the local determinants of crocodile presence in the study area which will have important implications in designing crocodile conservation sites with high human influence. Our team is currently preparing a manuscript for a peer reviewed journal for disseminating these two important outcomes from the project. We will update the progress in the course of time.

The third most important outcome of the project was the reach of the conservation awareness programme to a greater audience than was previously imagined. We had a hope that this awareness programme would have a site-specific impact but

rather it had a larger impact. With the help of our broadcasting partner, the impact was felt in two more districts which are core crocodile habitat with a greater human pressure and a greater need of such projects.

**4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.**

Indeed, we had some activities that involved the participation of local communities. Their gracious involvement in surveys and workshops demonstrated their acceptance for the need of the project. However, the benefits of the project to the local are yet to be realised because the effect of these activities are indirect. A longer time would be needed for these effects to be realised.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

We are very glad about the response shown by our project partners without the help of whom the project would not have been successful. Our partners have already shown their interest in continuing the project. We have our baseline data and are expecting to expand our understanding on peoples' perception across the landscape not only a specific site. We plan to work on a larger landscape scale that will help in more generalised results.

**6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?**

We already are preparing a manuscript for the sharing of the results with a larger audience. We will also share the results with our partners through reports.

**7. Timescale: Over what period was the grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?**

The project was extended by 3 months. Most of the earlier teammates had to leave the project for their study abroad which hampered the first few months of the project. However, the project speeded up once the new team members were assembled.

**8. Budget: Provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.**

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Technical Support to crocodile proof caged fish culture	350	600	+250	The amount was too little for the support. We conducted

				workshop to promote caged culture in the affected area.
Travel (Domestic and Local)	185	100	-85	The local travel cost was reduced because most of the field work was done walking
Stationary, Communication	70	70		As planned
Outreach Materials (Brochures, Posters)	100	70	-30	The printing company was willing to help for the cause so reduced the amount
Field Gears for monitoring	200		-200	We received funds for the field gears from IDEA WILD.
Food and Accommodation for 4 team members	523	600	+77	Increased field members caused increased cost
National Level Workshop for conservation strategy	1038	1000	-38	We conducted local level workshop because the estimated cost was too little for national workshop
9 months radio program for awareness	500	460	-40	The program was cheaper than expected and the program was extended for 1 year
Coordination Meetings	200	200		According to plan
Technicians for conflict assessment	209	800	+591	The cost of technician was too high than expected
Technicians for 15 days for population assessment	1525	1000	-525	Photographic survey reduced cost and time for the survey
Technicians for 5 days for habitat assessment	100	100		Although the technician cost was too high, use of remote sensing reduced the cost for habitat assessment
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>5000</b>		

**9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?**

The project presented the local correlates of crocodile presence and socioeconomics of crocodile conservation in a human dominated landscape. A regional assessment of species distribution and socio-economic impact of human-crocodile conflict will be the next step to ensure crocodiles and human live in harmony alongside each other.

Indeed, we are planning to develop the project soon and look for the funding.

**10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

Yes, the provided logo was used in every material produced related to this project.

**11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.**

**Suraj Baral:** Designed the project, socio economic, population and habitat survey, analysed the habitat data

**Tejab Pun:** Coordinated the socio-economic data collection

**Khem Gurung:** Coordinated the population data collection

**Bibek Aryal:** Coordinated the habitat data collection

**Bibek Gautam:** Drafted the strategy guideline

**Babita Paudyal:** Analyzed the socio-economic data

**12. Any other comments?**

To the knowledge of the team, the project is one of the first project to address the socio-economic issues in conserving mugger crocodile in an urban landscape. This is surprising because the mugger crocodile global distribution includes urban areas in many places. With that backdrop, the project had a huge impact on understanding these neglected issues on conserving a globally threatened species. However, some aspects of the project had been over ambitious, mainly due to little experience in planning a budget. Therefore, some of the activities had to be compromised to a smaller scale than expected - a lesson obtained from the project.

Apart from above mentioned shortcomings, the project has met most of the objectives it was expected to accomplish - a large mass of people had been made aware about conserving wetlands and crocodiles, habitat and population status of the species assessed and mitigation of crocodile-conflict assessed and documented.