

Project Update: January 2011

Our project started in the last week of June 2010. We have completed first step of our project (preliminary survey) through informal interviews and questionnaire surveys. Interviews, meetings and visits to villages were carried out in order to explain study objectives to local residents and to estimate the high conflict zone and potential habitat area of Asiatic black bear. Within each village we have interviewed farmers, forest users and victims. Following these interviews, we conducted questionnaire survey in 22 villages in order to document people's attitudes, conflict types, Asiatic black bear status and local residents' perception on Asiatic black bear and human-bear conflict.

The second step of the project (sign survey) is ongoing. We will survey and record black bear signs such as claw marks, nets, scats, diggings and footprints.

