

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Prativa Kaspal
Project Title	Strengthening People for Pangolin Conservation in the human-dominated landscapes of Nepal
Application ID	41504-2
Date of this Report	13 December 2024

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
To enhance the capacity of Community-based pangolin management committee, community women, volunteers and key stakeholders			√	5 sensitization programs, 3 training sessions, regular field surveys, camera traps installation and radio/TV broadcasts which enhanced skills in habitat management and anti-poaching, promoted behavioural changes and active participation that strengthened pangolin conservation efforts.
To conduct promotional activities for the community-based pangolin conservation areas as a local resource/ educational center			√	A trip was conducted for 24 interested graduates and lecturers, providing hands-on guidance on pangolin behavior, ecology, equipment handling, and rescue protocols, hoarding boards placements. Additionally, 2 support units with interested youth researchers, local forest users and students comprising 10 members each were formed and fully trained, achieving the objective.
To conduct conservation awareness programs and sensitize the local people on the importance of pangolin conservation as a life support system			√	We distributed 50 t-shirts, 100 caps, 150 cups, 1,000 calendars, 50 educational banners, certificates, and tokens of appreciation, featuring pangolin sketches and conservation messages. We also organized 10 community and 20 school awareness programs, reaching an estimated 5,000 individuals, with a focus on students, women, and marginalized groups. Additionally, radio/TV programs

				were broadcasted and aired, expanding outreach to approximately 10,000 people, promoting a broader understanding of conservation efforts.
To draft a site-specific pangolin conservation management plan at the local level.			v	A site-specific Pangolin Management Plan for community-based Pangolin Conservation Area has been prepared addressing local threats and conservation needs. The plan offers a targeted framework for protection, research, and stakeholder collaboration. By documenting community-based conservation measures, it ensures the long-term survival of pangolins, the last remaining scaly mammals, while supporting sustainable community engagement.

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

a). Through the 5 sensitization programs, 3 training sessions, field surveys, camera traps, and broadcasts, skills in habitat management, anti-poaching, and pangolin handling were developed, behavioural changes and active community participation in pangolin conservation efforts through capacity building programs.

b). Production and distribution of educational materials (t-shirts, calendars, caps, cups, banners) and organization of 10 community and 20 school programs, along with radio/TV broadcasts, reached approximately 15,000 individuals, raising awareness about pangolin conservation, particularly among students, women, and marginalized groups.

c). Site-specific Pangolin Management Plan was produced, addressing local threats and needs that provides a targeted framework for protection, research, and stakeholder collaboration, ensuring the long-term survival of pangolins in community-based conservation areas.

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

During the project, we encountered unexpected heavy rainfall, floods, and landslides, which disrupted field activities and surveys. Additionally, we lost one of our trail cameras during these challenging conditions. To address these issues, we adapted by temporarily halting field monitoring during extreme weather events.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.

Local communities were actively involved in the project through participation in field surveys, camera traps installation, conservation outreach and awareness programs, training sessions and community consultation. They gained skills in pangolin conservation, including habitat management and anti-poaching practices. Special emphasis was placed on empowering women, students, and marginalized groups through local capacity building programs. The project increased awareness of the Chinese pangolin's ecological importance, nurturing local pride and support for conservation. Overall, the project strengthened local capacity for wildlife conservation, ensuring the long-term protection of pangolins and supporting sustainable community engagement.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans to continue this work. We would like to build on the existing foundation by strengthening community involvement through the implementation of the pangolin management plan in collaboration with the local government agencies. Future efforts will focus on expanding conservation activities, increasing local participation in monitoring and protection. We also aim to create more sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities to support long-term pangolin conservation.

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

We plan to present the outcomes at conservation conferences, journals, newsletters and forums, ensuring that the lessons learned are accessible to other conservationists, stakeholders, and communities.

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

Looking ahead, key next steps include implementing and refining the site-specific pangolin management plan, focusing on monitoring, protection, and mitigating threats and enhancing community engagement through more training on sustainable livelihoods and strengthening partnerships with educational institutes, enforcement agencies and local government.

8. 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, we used the Rufford Foundation logo on various materials produced for this project, including educational banners, t-shirts, caps, calendars, action plan and other promotional items. The Foundation received publicity through these materials and also during national and international meetings such as IUCN Regional Conservation Forum, community awareness programs, where we acknowledged the financial support from Rufford Foundation to our conservation efforts.

The estimated numbers of people reached through various communication channels during our project period:

1. Naari National TV Program:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULe58NHxRxl>

Viewers: Approximately 7,600 viewers.

2. Good Mood, Seven Star 4K: World Pangolin Day Program:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_yc1WBV4Zg

<https://www.facebook.com/7star4ktv/videos/410986827986463>

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0Cxgbh8jxxSyrvMiCvmS7W5AgUjrhPVh6Ew82KUSJeVU72G5W3UiYQYo6bn1X5uz4l&id=100008826605353¬if_id=1708151330445948¬if_t=feedback_reaction_generic&ref=notif

Viewers: 177 viewers.

3. Bhaktapur FM Radio Interview:

Views on YouTube: 200 views.

4. National workshop: 150 participants
5. National Conservation Forum: around 450 participants
6. IUCN Regional Conservation Forum: 450 participants from various countries
7. Printed article was published in the local annual bulletin named Healthy Environment published by the local NGO: Vatawaran Samrakcharan Manch, Bhaktapur.
8. News covered in published printed monthly newsletter of Khwopa College on our graduates' classes and field demonstration visit for pangolin conservation during the World Environment Day 2024.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Team members and their respective roles in the project:

Dr. Sudeep Thakuri

Role: Study design, Survey sheet design, Coordination with the local educational institutes and questionnaire preparation and monitoring protocol preparation and management

Dr. Narayan Prasad Kaju

Role: Social science survey design, Community Workshops, Coordination, and sensitization meetings

Dr. Sampurna Kakchapati

Role: Questionnaire preparation, design, Support in data collection, management, analysis and revision on the action plan

Mr. Bijay Dhaubanjari

Role: Financial management, Auditing, Transaction, Logistics support, and coordination between office and field station.

9. Any other comments?

With a grateful heart, we thank the Rufford Foundation for their generous financial support, which enabled us to advance our pangolin conservation project. This effort has successfully engaged communities, protected habitats, and contributed to a site-specific management plan. However, support is vital for monitoring, management plan implementation and community incentives. In this regard, we look forward to the cooperation and support from the Rufford Foundation will continue for regular monitoring, research, regular conservation awareness and effective implementation of site-specific pangolin management plan in the community managed forests of Bhaktapur district that shelters the critically threatened Chinese pangolins.