

DIR29S2\1026

Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

Conflicts with wild large carnivores is a significant driver of their population decline, also levying severe negative impacts on local communities' livelihoods, health and welfare. The Terai lowlands between India and Nepal experience significant conflicts with large carnivores (tigers, leopards, sloth bears), eroding prevalent tolerance for wildlife, and jeopardising biodiversity conservation efforts. The project will develop a sustainable model of conflict management, by empowering local communities in project villages, promoting both biodiversity and human development outside of Protected Areas (PA).

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Mayukh
Surname Chatterjee
Organisation North of England Zoological
Society (Chester Zoo)

Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DIR29S2\1026

Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

Section 1 - Contact Details

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Mayukh
Surname	Chatterjee
Organisation	North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo)
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo)
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Title:

Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR28S1\1123

DIR29S1\1076

Q4. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Tropical-subtropical forests

Biome 2

Shrublands & shrubby woodlands

Biome 3

Intensive land-use systems (agric., plantations and urban)

Conservation Action 1

Livelihood, economic & other incentives (incl. conservation payments)

Conservation Action 2

Education & awareness (incl. training)

Conservation Action 3

External Capacity Building

Threat 1

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

Threat 2

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

Threat 3

Other threats

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Conflicts with wild large carnivores is a significant driver of their population decline, also levying severe negative impacts on local communities' livelihoods, health and welfare. The Terai lowlands between India

and Nepal experience significant conflicts with large carnivores (tigers, leopards, sloth bears), eroding prevalent tolerance for wildlife, and jeopardising biodiversity conservation efforts. The project will develop a sustainable model of conflict management, by empowering local communities in project villages, promoting both biodiversity and human development outside of Protected Areas (PA).

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1	Nepal	Country 2	India
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 April 2023	31 March 2026	3 years

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
Amount:	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████	██████████

Q9. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %	██
--	----

Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

The majority of the matched funding are provided by the lead applicant through its core funds accrued from donations from Chester Zoo visitors and annually earmarked for conservation projects in various

regions, especially as matched fund support for projects that can accrue long-term external support. Furthermore, match funding from the in-country partner in India, is built in from its corpus funds that it utilises to support the part salaries of senior staff of the organisation, besides the infrastructure costs in India.

Additional in-kind contributions will be made by all three partners at various levels, primarily in the form of heavy equipment, office space, facilities and utilities both in the city regions as well as in the remote field areas where field stations/camps.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£) [REDACTED]

Q10c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how will you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

The project only has [REDACTED] as unconfirmed funding as financial budgets of the lead applicant organisation for the third year (2026) that have not been firmed up yet. However, we are very confident of this being confirmed by next year end.

Section 4 - Problem statement

Q11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?

For example, what are the drivers of biodiversity loss that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite any evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

Persistent and unmanaged conflicts between humans and wild large carnivores like tigers and leopards, levy significant costs on local communities living around wildlife habitats, in the form of loss of lives and livelihoods (1) and impacting their mental health and wellbeing (2), while also being a significant driver of large carnivore population declines due to retaliatory persecution (3,4,5,6).

In India and Nepal, increases in human and tiger populations have escalated conflicts, while also enhancing conflicts with other large carnivores displaced by higher tiger densities (8). Left unmanaged, this erodes tolerance towards wildlife and can lead to increased retaliatory persecution (6). Through several consultations and discussions with in-country partners over the last two years, incidents of conflicts between people and large carnivores, was identified to be escalating particularly in the Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa transboundary landscape, requiring focused mitigation efforts.

The Valmiki Tiger Reserve (TR) in India today harbours over 33 breeding individuals (12) after over two decades without any tigers in the park. Thus, around 69 livestock deaths and 3 human casualties caused by tigers and leopards were recorded between 2019 and 2021 localised around two forest ranges. Likewise, Chitwan in Nepal has also witnessed a significant increase in the tiger population (13) and thus also in conflicts, particularly in certain regions of Chitwan National Park such as Madi. In just 2021-22 conflicts with tigers and leopards led to nearly 9 human casualties (4 were fatal) and 53 recorded livestock depredation cases, in Madi alone.

While the absolute cessation of conflict incidents is not possible due to various extraneous factors ranging from lack of control over wildlife and human movement, to encounters occurring accidentally despite all precautions, it is however possible to reduce the frequency of accidental encounters and livestock depredation sustainably and significantly through targeted interventions, as has been evidenced in many other places fraught with big cat conflict (14,15 & 16). Mitigated reduction in the adverse impacts of such conflicts is indispensable for developing long-term positive perceptions towards wildlife, and thus for their successful conservation.

Further, while such initiatives have been done in several human-wildlife conflict prone landscapes before, few have focused holistically at smaller spatial scales to create replicable models, especially across transboundary landscapes.

The current project will therefore entirely focus efforts in six prioritised village communities most impacted by conflicts large carnivores in the transboundary landscape between India and Nepal, to create model 'brightspots' – examples of how this issue can be managed in a participatory and sustainable manner. The project will achieve this through community integration and empowerment, allowing for self-driven upscaling of efforts beyond the project period with minimal technical support, while also promoting further financial support and policy focus to foster replication over wider spatial scales where the problem persists. Lastly, the project will investigate a looming and understudied issue of mental health and wellbeing in rural communities, by investigating it with respect to hidden impacts of human-wildlife conflicts such as poverty, fear and stress, and developing a plan for addressing these issues.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q12a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAP etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

The project directly corresponds to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), 1,2,3,5 & 15, - to reduce poverty and hunger (SDG 1 & 2) by developing capacity to safeguard livestock and supplementary income sources. It aims to reduce vulnerability of livestock being killed by large carnivores, reduce forest-based fuelwood through improved cook stoves or alternative fuels, and gain an understanding of the impacts of such conflicts on mental health and wellbeing, thus aligning with SDG3 for promoting good health and wellbeing. It also targets women's empowerment under its livelihood development initiative, and hence responds directly to SDG 5 in promoting gender equality. Furthermore, it promotes the successful conservation of key large carnivore species by reducing risks of retaliatory persecution, directly responding

to SDG 15 to promote life on land.

Although dated to be achieved by 2020, the project aligns with the Aichi targets 1,2 & 4 of Strategic Goal A of the CBD, through a strong focus on reduction of human wildlife conflicts – a key factor driving species decline, and thus biodiversity loss (Target 12, SG-C). Its participatory and integrative approach aligns with Target 17 aiming for implementation of initiatives for biodiversity conservation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

At a national level, the project aligns with the National Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (2021-26), India, as well as the Management Plan for Valmiki TR of India.

The project also supports Nepal's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2025, which specifically mentions enhancement of human-wildlife coexistence as a key Strategic Action (1.3) under its larger strategic Goal 1: to Conserve Species.

The project also aligns with the goals set under the global tiger conservation strategy as well as the conservation action plans for the tiger in both India and Nepal, wherein, community supported mitigation and management of conflict is a vital initiative to ensure successful conservation of the species.

Lastly, our project also indirectly supports Nepal's and India's commitments to CITES by helping the implementing agency continue to protect the Appendix I listed Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) in the Terai region of the two countries.

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

Q13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- how you have reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.
- the specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective, and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods)
- what will be the **main activities** and where will these take place.
- how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

The project builds on previous successes – the Darwin Initiative project (Ref. No. 23-013) in Nepal implemented by NTNC and NEZS, and another long-term project in India implemented by WTI, demonstrated success in community-led management, minimising human-large carnivore conflicts around Bardia and Chitwan NPs in Nepal, and in the contiguous transboundary landscape around Dudhwa and Pilibhit TR in northern India. Community integration is widely accepted as indispensable in furthering conservation, especially mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts with local communities as primary stakeholders. Emerging studies (9, 14,15,&16) also highlight engagement of other stakeholders such as wildlife managers and media personnel as crucial for long-term positive change.

The project in Nepal successfully reduced livestock depredation using predator proof pens (PPP) by $\geq 50\%$. Furthermore, the livelihoods initiatives such as horticulture, improved livestock husbandry (poultry and goat rearing) and traditional arts and crafts, resulted in successfully increasing beneficiaries' earnings by 41-70%, offsetting losses from conflicts. In India, the Primary Response Team (PRT) network established by WTI, today resolves over 50% of conflicts without requiring capture and relocation of the animals involved and preventing further human and wildlife casualties.

This project will reduce losses incurred due to conflicts with large carnivores by training people to safeguard livestock, and promoting stall feeding of livestock, reducing people's time spent in forests for fuelwood and other resources, and establishing a local volunteer-based PRTs to prevent aggravated conflict situations. Secondly, it will alleviate poverty by promoting non-forest dependent 'green' livelihoods, better energy security by replacing forest-based fuelwood use with sustainable fuels. It will also pioneer understanding of the mental health and wellbeing impacts of conflict, and address an overarching issue of negatively skewed public narrative surrounding human-large carnivore conflicts, mediated by negatively sensationalised reporting and untenable 'band-aid' approaches to mitigating conflict situations.

It will focus on six 'high-conflict' villages in the Madi region of Nepal's Chitwan NP (an existing conflict hotspot), and Manguraha in India's Valmiki TR (an emerging hotspot). Focussing on limited areas will ensure the project concentrates more resources, catering to a significant proportion of each village population and deliver demonstrable change for future replication.

The project can be broadly divided into four clusters of work relevant to different outputs:

1. Research (Outputs 1,2,3,4 & 5): Baseline on human-large carnivore conflicts, losses, vulnerability to conflict risk, perceptions, mental health and wellbeing, narrative analyses in print-media, mitigation efforts by authorities, and post-intervention comparisons.
2. Reduction of livestock loss (Output 2): PPPs for smaller livestock, 'eye-cow' and stall-feeding promotion for cattle.
3. Reducing vulnerability of conflict risk (Outputs 3): Promotion of improved cook stoves, non-forest based 'green-livelihoods', and awareness on safe behaviours and practices.
4. Enhancing tolerance (Output 1,2,3 & 4): Developing community-based response teams, promotion of green-livelihoods to offset losses, awareness and capacity building of print-media personnel, and local wildlife managers.

Initially, data will be collected using standardised methodologies to establish baselines for different project outputs and indicators. Concurrently, inclusive approaches and tools such as Focused Group Discussions (FGD), Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRA) and microplanning will be carried out with the most vulnerable and marginalized families in the villages to integrate views and determine specifics of each intervention (preferred type of green livelihood (GL), type improved cookstoves (ICS), etc.), and identify volunteers and beneficiaries. The selected villages together have around 1800 households, at least one third of whom are critically dependent upon forest resources such as fuelwood. The project would cater to these households directly and to the larger community of the villages indirectly (e.g. through PRTs).

Free and prior written consents will be accrued from all families and volunteers enlisting to partake in the programme. Following this, a subset of target families and volunteers will receive capacity development trainings to function as trainers/resource persons for the remaining families under relevant project interventions. The services of select community persons from earlier project sites in Nepal and India will also be sought, to encourage greater uptake and buy-in. To kickstart the livelihood and improved cookstoves initiatives, the project field team will provide financial and technical support to each beneficiary household during implementation.

For media and forest department awareness, the project team will directly work with specific members of each stakeholder group and conduct engagement workshops to enhance their understanding. The field teams will carry out implementation on the ground, and the project leads and coordinators will monitor all work on a monthly and quarterly basis and evaluate it bi-annually through field visits and review meetings to ensure high quality and timebound delivery of project outputs.

Q14. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit, and the post-project value to the country.

The partnership will directly develop in-country partners' capacity to manage and execute a focused yet multi-faceted project, specifically fostering behaviour change, and methods to systematically measure change. It will also develop transboundary collaborations between key organisations working on similar issues, and thus set the trend for future collaborative action across borders. Particularly, several staff involved in the projects will receive direct exposure to field realities across the border whilst supporting capacity building exercises in project villages as well as in workshops for communities, forest department and local media. This will also expectedly open avenues for new learnings, especially practices and behaviours that help prevent conflicts and foster co-existence.

The project also aims at employing the expertise of external resource persons, especially strongly performing beneficiaries from the previous projects in Nepal and India to help share successes and encourage buy-in. The project will develop community trainers to carry out specific initiatives (e.g. installation and maintenance of improved cookstoves, predator proof pens, cattle breed development, etc.), and train additional community representatives volunteering to develop their skills in specific areas. It will also increase the capacity of direct beneficiaries or ICS and Green Livelihoods to strengthen their capacity to sustainably lead non-forest-based livelihoods, and to help additional people keen to reduce their dependence on forest resources and vulnerability to negative encounters with large carnivores.

Furthermore, the project will develop the knowledge, skills and capacity of Primary Response Team members to evaluate conflict situations and efficiently act to diffuse them, while also supporting the larger village communities in managing risks of conflicts such as guarding of livestock. All of this is aimed to build knowledge, skills and capacity within each project village, ensuring sustainability beyond the project period.

Q15. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your understanding of gender equality within the context your project, and how is it reflected in your plans. Please summarise how your project will contribute to reducing gender inequality. Applicants should, at a minimum, ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased gender equality.

Women in rural areas of the project region are traditionally exposed to conflicts with large carnivores because they frequent forests for natural resource collection more than men. The project will facilitate participation of women at various levels - fostering gender balance within the implementing team, while women beneficiaries will be given preference for livelihood development and allied initiatives.

In most of rural India and Nepal a clear segregation of gender roles can be witnessed - women managing household chores, child rearing, collecting fuelwood, etc., in addition to supporting men in agriculture and livestock rearing, while men earn money and manage the household economy. Also, underprivileged sections (ethnic minorities, lower class and caste groups, etc.) in rural communities are often the most neglected, and at the bottom of power structures within the community.

The project will therefore, through the Focused Group Discussions (FGD) and appraisals in the project villages (done separately for men and women), facilitate participation from underprivileged households in each village, especially the women from these households. Men from underprivileged sections will be given preference in other initiatives such as PRTs, eye-cow, livestock breed development, etc., ensuring that both men and women from underprivileged sections benefit.

Moreover, the mental health and wellbeing assessment will be carried out across the broad social and demographic structures present in the region, laying equal emphasis on underprivileged and underrepresented economic, social classes, and genders. The strategic action plan development for addressing mental health and wellbeing will also highlight any kind of gender imbalances that may exist. For development of knowledge and awareness of forest department and local media personnel, the project will make a conscious effort to actively involve women from these stakeholder groups, although a skewed gender ratio is expected to be a challenge within these groups.

Q16. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who your stakeholders are, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?

In the project region, village communities are primary stakeholders as the negative impacts of conflicts are directly borne by them, while the forest department staff are tasked to manage conflicts despite inadequate knowledge, skills and capacity to do so. The local media cater to the large population in these landscapes and thus directly influence perceptions. Targeting these three stakeholder groups to change prevalent public perception and attitude towards proactive mitigation of conflicts with large carnivores, is therefore critical.

For forest department and local print media personnel, focused workshops will be organised annually to increase awareness on various strategies to minimise the negative impacts human-big cat conflicts, and their respective roles in its mitigation and management. These will follow a consultative and participatory approach to learning, utilising both theory and practical sessions to impart crucial information. Power point presentations, posters, awareness booklets (prepared in earlier projects), and curated activities in local language will be utilised to foster understanding of conflict scenarios and causations, the impact of conventional interventions such as capture and translocation on wildlife populations. The role of fact-based media reporting and education through popular media outreach will also be exemplified through in-depth case study reviews. Awareness and understanding will be evaluated systematically through pre-and post-evaluations of participants.

FGDs and PRAs along with consultative meetings will be conducted to apprise village communities about the causes of human-large carnivore conflicts, as well as the need for local people's participation in sustainable mitigation and management of such conflicts. Linkages between forest resource dependence, human-large carnivore conflicts, poverty and mental health and wellbeing will also be elaborated through each of the engagements planned. Additionally, messaging associated with all initiatives of the project will revolve around imparting information and awareness on the issue being addressed by the project.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and poverty reduction, and links between them, this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended) and the potential to scale the approach.

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households

should be the largest unit used.

Within the project period, the project will effectively reduce livestock depredation by large carnivores in project villages, significantly reduce risks of conflicts resulting in human injury/fatality, especially women, who predominantly undertake natural resource collection from forests. It will thus directly save lives of local village people and their livestock, and minimise the significant financial impacts associated with this, while also indirectly fostering greater tolerance for wildlife species and, thus prevent their persecution in retaliation.

The established PRTs to demonstrate proactive mitigation of conflicts on the ground, will save lives of large carnivores engaged in conflicts, and prevent further losses to local people. Long term, such an approach when scaled up, will potentially alter perceptions about large carnivores empowering local people to approach conflicts as a problem that can be successfully managed.

Adoption of Improved (fuel-efficient) cook stoves and green livelihoods, will demonstrably reduce the time people spend in forests, especially women in the focal villages, thereby significantly reducing the probability of them encountering wild large carnivores, and the entailed risk of negative encounters. Long term, it would expectedly cater to their better physical and mental health and wellbeing of beneficiaries, while a sustained increase in per-capita earnings would also foster better education opportunities for children in these households. Further, through appropriate messaging built into the initiatives, it is also expected that the reduced risks, better, safer and more sustainable livelihood will foster a more positive perception about tigers, leopards and wildlife in general, paving the way for greater coexistence.

The capacity building and awareness initiatives for media personnel and parks and wildlife rangers, will impact knowledge gain and broadening of perspectives, especially, their understanding of why human-large carnivore conflicts occur, how they can be managed proactively, and their role in fostering coexistence. Long term, it is expected to have a compounding effect on public perceptions of human-large carnivore conflicts and how they can be managed preserving the interests of both parties of conflict, people and wildlife (9). This will overarchingly bolster and spread the community based integrative approach across other areas in the landscape, thereby driving a wide scale impact.

The project is designed to encourage replication at all levels and is thus expected to expand beyond the project period. There are about ~120 villages covering over ~42,000 households living around Chitwan National Park and approximately 150 villages with over 37000 households along the southern border of Valmiki TR. About 30% of these households are also critically dependent upon forest resources, and thereby vulnerable to conflicts, although conflicts are spatially clustered in the landscape (see map). To ensure a landscape level change, future endeavours need to potentially be extended onto this expanse of prioritised households in conflict hotspots. The successful models that this project aims to build will provide the template for replication across these additional villages in the area, while the project itself will outline the pathway of change that is to be employed in new areas.

Q18. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

Human-wildlife conflict increases risks of wildlife population declines, as people experiencing conflicts over long-periods opt for extreme solutions like retaliatory persecution (6), especially when historically they have been alienated by exclusionary conservation efforts, and continue to receive little inclusive support to ameliorate conflicts (10 & 11).

Thus, to resolve the problem from both, human, and wildlife's perspectives, integration of local communities into mitigation strategies is indispensable, as inclusivity and empowerment fosters

coexistence. Equally important is the concurrent delivery of solutions to alleviate losses from human-wildlife conflicts.

The project, employing learnings from and expanding on proven successful initiatives from earlier projects in similar ecological and cultural environments, will drive the reduction of adverse outcomes of human-large carnivore interactions – securing livelihoods of people, thus improving their wellbeing, and therefore preventing retaliatory action against endangered wildlife in the region.

Furthermore, the focus on gaining deeper understanding into people's mental health and wellbeing is a unique approach of the project, furthering more focused work that can enable people to proactively coexist with large carnivores.

Lastly, by developing capacity of forest officials and media personnel, community integration efforts will be bolstered through a changed prevalent narrative on human-wildlife conflicts in the region.

Q19. Exit Strategy

How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding?

How could post-project scaling of the approach (if proven) be delivered: through new finance or through uptake by stakeholders or other mechanisms? Are there any barriers to scaling and how will these be addressed?

How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits?


The project aims to creating model 'brightspots' for further replication, and hence, reduced risks of livestock depredation and loss of human lives and injury in the project villages are key indicators to plan an exit. To this effect, it is also important that people view occasional occurrences as random accidental events, rather than a persistent unmanageable problem.


Before exiting, the project will ensure that direct beneficiaries sustainably continue the adopted changes and harbour a changed perception about why conflicts occur and their management without aggravation. It will also ensure that skills and capacity within project villages are adequately developed before moving into an exit phase. This is to ensure long-term sustainability of these initiatives. For this, wherever required convergence with government schemes and policies, and with ongoing initiatives of allied agencies will be ensured.


The project will also constitute local committees comprising representatives from the local communities, in-country partner organisations and local forest department, to ensure further spread of the success onto adjoining communities where the problem persists. These committees will be trained to develop future projects with technical support from a steering group comprising of representatives of the lead partner, in-country partners, and an external advisory body of subject experts.


Lastly, it is important to understand that only long-term efforts can effect sustainable change, especially when aiming for change in public behaviour with an aim for reduction in poverty and improvement of human wellbeing. Mitigation of human-wildlife conflict also requires long-term efforts at wide spatial scales, being largely a human-driven reaction to losses brought about by wildlife. The project applicants therefore will continue efforts to support the committee to raise additional funds for this purpose to ensure that a demonstrable legacy remains in the landscape for other parts of the countries, to successfully support both people and biodiversity.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

 [Supporting Document 1 \(Reference list, Map & Support Letters & FCDO Emails\)](#)

 12/12/2022

 14:25:03

 pdf 1.56 MB

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q20. Risk Management

Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the [Risk Guidance](#). This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Projects should also draft their initial risk register using the [Risk Assessment template](#) provided, and be prepared to submit this when requested if they are recommended for funding. Do not attach this to your application.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
Fiduciary Part of funds are utilised for non-project related expenses by any staff of the in-country partners, or the organisations themselves	Moderate	Possible	Minor	In both India and Nepal, the laws for utilisation of foreign funds mitigate against any misappropriation. Foreign currency expenditures are audited annually by the government. Additionally, the lead partner will review of expenses incurred by both in-country partners vis-à-vis, the activities undertaken in same period, quarterly.	Minor
Safeguarding A project team member engages in, or is complicit in, any incident of abuse, either internally within the organisation, or in the field involving any beneficiary or volunteer of the project, or any member of any stakeholder group.	Severe	Unlikely	Moderate	All three partners have strict policies to protect staff and stakeholders from any form of abuse. Chester Zoo also has safeguarding policies, which In-country partners will additionally adopt and implement. Policies and procedures will include clear whistleblowing and reporting mechanisms, alongside transparent investigation and escalation procedures.	Minor

Delivery Chain	Staff changes in partner organisation may hamper project implementation in a timely manner or with adequate quality as envisaged during project conception.	Major	Possible	Moderate	All core staff of the project are permanent senior staff of the respective organisations, and it is highly unlikely that they will change. For in-field staff, any changes will be preceded by recruitment of new staff and appropriate handover of responsibilities to ensure implementation of the project faces minimal interruptions.	Minor
-----------------------	---	-------	----------	----------	---	-------

Risk 4	Volunteers engaged to respond to conflict situations (PRT) will lose enthusiasm if conflict hotspots spatially shift over time, or momentarily cease.	Moderate	Possible	Minor	Volunteers will be encouraged to part take in other initiatives in the project based on interests, and therefore trained in multiple skills, allowing them to conduct activities besides responding to conflicts, thereby keeping them occupied and tied to the original aims.	Minor
---------------	---	----------	----------	-------	--	-------

Risk 5	Beneficiaries abandon adopted livelihoods or other measures of reduction of losses/risks from human-large carnivore conflicts mid-way or after project ends,	Severe	Unlikely	Minor	All beneficiaries will be monitored throughout the project and beyond to ensure appropriate handholding is carried out by project teams, ensuring long-term viability of initiatives. Also, as most initiatives aim at bettering people's lives and securing their livelihoods, it is unlikely beneficiaries will abandon new livelihoods or practices.	Minor
---------------	--	--------	----------	-------	---	-------

Risk 6	Rapidly changing aspirations (due to rapid development) in local communities hamper sustainability of initiatives focussed on changing specific behaviours and practices	Severe	Unlikely	Minor	The region being very rural and remote, it is unlikely to develop rapidly enough to render the project outcome and approaches as irrelevant, as are wider socioeconomic, cultural & development changes that could significantly change the protected area and rural community geography.	Minor
---------------	--	--------	----------	-------	---	-------





Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q21. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

 [Living with Large Carnivores - Transboundary Stage 2 - Implementation Timetable Version 1.1](#)
 11/12/2022
 16:45:43
 pdf 297.17 KB

Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q22. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see [Finance Guidance](#)).

The project will primarily use the log-frame and timetable to monitor the project, which will be done by the project leader & technical advisors along with in-country project manager from NEZS (lead – applicant). The project manager will also oversee day-to-day implementation of all aspects of the project, annually spending six months each in field sites of either country with respective in-country teams and will primarily be concerned with continuous monitoring and evaluation of the project. Additionally, to ensure close monitoring, each of the outputs and activities and the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) therein will be further broken down into discrete tasks and built into detailed implementation plans (with support from WTI – lead partner in India) with budget breakups, point persons assigned each task, as well as appropriate deadlines, to ensure effective implementation. These plans will be implemented by the field teams and supervised by the core team representatives of the partner organisations along with the in-country project manager. The project manager will carry out a review each month based on these implementation plans along with the project leader (lead applicant) and in-country project leads. In addition to this, the project leader and UK based technical advisors will undertake quarterly meetings

with the in-country partner staff (including field staff) to carry out longer reviews of the implementation, evaluating each activity undertaken in that quarter. Adaptive management of the project will be deliberated upon in these quarterly meetings and all potential changes required will be planned during these.

The project leader and technical advisors will also undertake 10-12 day long monitoring and evaluation missions to India and Nepal biannually, involving in-field site visits and meetings with field personnel and representatives of the targeted communities and other stakeholders. These missions will also involve scrutiny of financial expenditures vis-à-vis execution of the project plan, and quality and extent of deliverables as well as the negative and positive outputs will be gauged through extensive consultative meetings with representatives of the community beneficiaries and other stakeholders of the project. Around 16% of total requested grant amount has been specifically earmarked for monitoring and evaluation, including the salary of the in-country project manager, whose primary role is to monitor and evaluate the project through first-hand in-situ observations and in-person meetings throughout the project period.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	██████████
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	█
Number of days planned for M&E	120

Section 10 - Logical Framework





Q23. Logical Framework (logframe)

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)

The **logframe template** (N.B. there is a different template for Stage 1 and Stage 2) needs to be downloaded from Flexi-Grant, completed and uploaded as a PDF within your Flexi-Grant application – **please do not edit the logframe template structure (other than adding additional Outputs if needed) as this may make your application ineligible.**

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

-  [Living with Large Carnivores - Transboundary Stage 2 Logframe V3 - Final 2 Dec 2022 Edits removed](#)
-  11/12/2022
-  16:23:58
-  pdf 113.26 KB

Impact:

Large carnivore populations are successfully conserved in the transboundary landscape of Nepal and India by bolstering human-large carnivore coexistence through community empowerment and wellbeing

Outcome:

Negative impacts of human-large carnivore interactions significantly reduced in six 'model' villages around Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa landscape across India and Nepal, through participatory conflict management, poverty alleviation and behaviour change

Project Outputs

Output 1:

A network of community volunteers trained, equipped and functionalised as Primary Response Team in project areas of Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa landscape.

Output 2:

Livestock depredation in project villages significantly reduced through promotion of two tried and tested initiatives Predator Proof Pens (PPP) and promotion of stall-fed cattle, as well as a new experimental novel method, the eye-cow.

Output 3:

At least 75% of targeted forest-dependent beneficiary communities in each of the 6 project villages benefit from 'green livelihoods (GL)', improved cookstoves, and/or sustainable cooking fuels, and significantly reduce their time spent in forest for natural resource collection.

Output 4:

Current narratives of human-large carnivore conflicts significantly altered to promote coexistence, through focussed capacity and knowledge building of local media personnel and wildlife managers.

Output 5:

A comprehensive understanding of mental health and wellbeing among the local communities established and a co-planned strategy to address impacts of HWC on mental health and wellbeing of people formulated for the project communities.

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have fewer than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

- 1.1: Conduct Focused Group Discussions (FGD) and individual interviews (using snowball sampling) for past data on human-tiger & human-leopard conflicts in project region.
- 1.2: Conduct community consultations in project villages and other adjoining conflict prone villages to explain the need and function of Primary Response Teams and accrue volunteers
- 1.3: Conduct an induction workshop for all volunteering PRTs in India and Nepal to introduce basics of the

role and assess various competencies.

1.4: Provide equipment to enlisted PRT members and conduct specialized training each year to develop capacity of PRTs

1.5: Inform and guide PRT members to successfully address conflict situations that are reported in and around their respective villages.

1.6: Conduct annual evaluation workshop to assess functioning of PRTs, celebrate success, promote peer and community support and cohesion, and recognize and reward strongly performing members.

2.1: Conduct household surveys to assess livestock ownership, grazing preferences etc. in all project villages, to assess priority need for interventions and willingness to participate.

2.2: Organize consultative workshops in each project village to apprise potential beneficiaries of various techniques to reduce livestock depredation, record beneficiaries' choices and accrue formal consent.

2.3. Organize workshop using select previous Living With Tigers (LWT) project beneficiaries to train beneficiaries in manufacture and maintenance of Predator Proof Pens (PPP).

2.4. Support the building of predator proof pens in all volunteering beneficiary households in villages by mid-year 2.

2.5. Conduct annual assessment of PPPs built through random house visits in at least 30% of beneficiary households and through maintenance logs.

2.6. Prepare methodological framework for assessing eye-cow effectiveness in reducing livestock depredation and train field team

2.7. Conduct workshop with volunteering livestock owners to apprise about the initiative, its need, the need for a systematic assessment, explain method of data logging, etc.

2.8. Carry out livestock 'eye-cow' camp for all beneficiaries enlisting in the eye-cow initiative to imprint "eyes' on all their livestock.

2.9. Monitor and collect data logs from each beneficiary on livestock grazing frequency and time, location, livestock loss, etc, on a monthly basis.

2.10. Conduct workshop to apprise volunteering cattle owners in project villages on breed improvement and benefits of stall feeding and accrue consent from at least 50% of cattle owners in each village.

2.11: Train local volunteers (select PRT members) in artificial insemination of cattle through state animal husbandry department or private agency and provide equipment to carry out artificial insemination of cattle in consenting households.

2.12: Carry out assessment of AI breeding improvement success and stall feeding practice through a rapid survey at the end of project year.

3.1: Conduct household surveys to gather primary information to create baselines on forest resource dependency and identify potential beneficiaries for 'green' livelihood and cooking fuel adoption

3.2: Conduct Participatory Rural Appraisals with potential beneficiaries to finalize interventions for reduction of forest dependency and conflict incidences, and accrue consent from them for different interventions.

3.3: Train local women to manufacture and repair fuel efficient cookstoves and involve them in manufacturing and installing these in all consenting beneficiary homes in project villages.

3.4: Carry out ICS installations in beneficiary households through trained women volunteers.

3.5: Conduct training on different alternative livelihood options selected by beneficiaries, using appropriate resource persons from allied government and private sector institutions.

3.6: Provide technical and financial support to consenting beneficiaries to setup new 'green' livelihood options

3.7: Establish a bi-annual self-reporting system with beneficiaries to monitor use ICS and different GLs adopted, as well as forest dependency, and collect self-reported data.

4.1: Conduct media report analysis on past reportage covering human-large carnivore conflicts in the project region, to segregate dominant narratives and tailor training and subsequent awareness.

4.2: Survey of relevant forest department staff at various levels to assess knowledge, attitudes, and

perceptions on human-wildlife conflicts in the region.

4.3: Create a master list of all print media personnel relevant to project region and contact them to apprise of the project and accrue consent for further engagement and capacity development.

4.4: Conduct annual capacity development workshop for media personnel and selected Forest Department officers.

4.5: Organize a 'media for wildlife conservation' event to foster trained media personnel to pledge to voice issue pertaining to wildlife through fact-based reporting.

4.6: Carry out post assessment of FD officers and media reports at the end of project period.

5.1: Formulate methodology to assess mental health and wellbeing across project villages, especially for most vulnerable groups and train survey consultants and field team.

5.2: Survey project villages and adjoining ones to assess mental health and wellbeing of villagers and the impact of human-wildlife conflicts on it.

5.3: Conduct consultative meetings with village elders, representatives of forest department, media agencies, local NGO's, and other government agencies to discuss results of the assessment and formulate strategies to address mental health and wellbeing.

5.4: Draft and disseminate strategic action plan to tackle mental health and wellbeing in relation to human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife conservation in the project region.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q24. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that all Darwin Main should be using the over £100,000 template. Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.

- [Budget form for projects over £100k](#)


Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.


N.B.: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.


Please upload the Lead Partner's accounts at the certification page at the end of the application form.

 [Living with large Carnivores - Transboundary](#)

[Stage 2 - Combined Budget Final Version 4](#)

 12/12/2022

 18:06:13

 xlsx 108.55 KB

Q25. Funding

Q25a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

New Initiative

Please provide details:

The project in Chitwan-Parsa-Valmiki complex of Nepal and India is a new initiative, providing an opportunity to expand and build on earlier, smaller project successes in other parts of Nepal (Living with Tigers – Darwin Initiative grant no. 23-013) and India (Terai Tiger project – USFWS’s Rhino and Tiger Grant and Chester Zoo). These past projects focused on alleviating poverty and changing perceptions to foster coexistence, and they have provided a strong baseline from which we understand the success of various approaches in reducing negative impacts of conflicts with wild, large carnivores, such as Primary Response Teams, Improved Cook Stoves, Green Livelihoods, Predator Proof Pens. This new initiative intends to extend these successes and experiences into new geography abutting Chitwan NP and Parsa NP in Nepal, and the contiguous Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar, India where conflicts with large carnivores is emerging as a new issue.

Additionally, the Eye-cow initiative has been tested successfully in Botswana (17) by the African Carnivore Research and Coexistence group, proving to be fruitful in reducing livestock depredation by African lions and leopards. This initiative will therefore provide a critical opportunity to test these additional approaches to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in a new region.

Q25b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

Yes

Please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

There is one transboundary project currently running in the landscape supported by KFW through IUCN’s Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme, and it has entered its second phase which is being jointly implemented by WWF (India) and ZSL (Nepal). We have maintained communication with these organisations during the development of this project plan to ensure our project approach is different, but complementary and aligned. The ZSL/WWF project primarily focuses on habitat development and enhancing protection measures in the park and does not focus on developing individual villages as model ‘brightspots’ focusing all efforts across villages consistently for mitigation of human-large carnivore conflicts. Our project is unique in focusing holistically on reducing impacts of human-large carnivore conflicts, especially with a multifaceted effort using community participation and integration as its primary approach. The ZSL/WWF project does not focus on developing community response mechanisms or reducing livestock depredation through innovative methods such as the eye-cow. It also does not target the development of the capacity and knowledge of local media personnel. Crucially, our project focuses on transboundary learning, and we will ensure the sharing of successes and lessons to better conservation outcomes.

Q26. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

Laptops for three field personnel, two cameras for documentation, four handheld GPSs for geotagging activities, one projector for use in workshops and meetings (India only), as well as power backup inverters

(for India) and some furniture for the field station (in India only) have been budgeted. The project will also purchase 3 motorbikes for the community liaisons and sociologist for facilitating daily travel to-and-fro field sites and adjoining regions. Lastly, the project will also purchase specialised equipment for improvement of cattle breeds, which will be retained by PRT members trained to undertake this activity. Remaining equipment will be retained by the project teams of the in-country organisations at the field sites and used (depending upon working conditions) beyond the project period. A total of £ [REDACTED] has been budgeted for capital equipment accounting for [REDACTED] % of total project costs requested.

Q27. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.

The project is based on tried and tested initiatives in adjoining landscapes in India and Nepal, and hence, while the budget for various initiatives is strongly based on extensive knowledge of costs in these regions of India and Nepal, it has also been planned to be effective in achieving the planned outputs. A strong value-for-money approach is employed to budget near-actuals using 6-month average exchange rates to accommodate for fluctuations. Further, for several similar activities, purchases or services, costs vary between the countries. This is also captured in the budget. For instance, past experience shows that in Valmiki TR in India Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) or Biogas have not been successful compared to improved cookstoves that use significantly less fuelwood, which also cost significantly less. In Nepal however the uptake of biogas and LPG have been more successful although costing higher. In all such cases variable budgets have been calculated for Nepal and India and are present in other sections of the budget as well reflecting accurate and realistic calculation of costings.

The budget is also efficient in avoiding unnecessary duplication of costs for activities with common logistical and personnel requirements. For instance, different surveys to be carried out within similar time frames by the same team have not been budgeted individually. Instead, costs for surveyors and their travel and subsistence have been lumped under common lines instead of budgeting each survey separately. Similar efficiency is maintained across all relevant heads of the budget wherever this has been realised.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q28. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place.

Please confirm the Lead Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with all partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement and strengthen your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that all partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. If any of the responses are “no”, please indicate how it is being addressed.

Many of the organisations Chester Zoo works with globally have limited safeguarding capacity, so a major part of Chester Zoo’s approach is to facilitate awareness, and the implementation of appropriate policies and procedures, within our partner organisations. Towards this end, Chester Zoo has developed and delivered a safeguarding training module for partners, and this runs parallel to partner due diligence processes that include safeguarding. Partners in this project have already signed up to Chester Zoo safeguarding policies and are currently working with Chester Zoo to develop and improve their own policies and procedures.

Q29. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key principles of good ethical practice, as outlined in the guidance.

Both WTI and NTNC are well established organisations, with strong national reputations which rely on strong internal governance and adherence to national legal and ethical frameworks. They are both also independently formally and informally assessed in these regards through national bodies and international partners.

The central tenet of this project, and ethos of all partners, is empowerment of local communities and stakeholders and the provision and access to knowledge and opportunity, whilst respecting and incorporating traditional knowledge and cultures. This approach is reflected through the values and leadership of all partners and participants in this initiative.

Additionally, all Chester Zoo project activities are assessed formally and rigorously through human and animal ethical frameworks ensuring participants are protected and animal welfare standards are met. Activities will also be risk assessed to ensure all possible mitigation is in place to protect staff and stakeholders.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q30. FCDO Notifications

Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.

No

Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q31. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1-page CVs or job description, further information on who is considered core staff can be found in the [Finance Guidance](#).

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Mayukh Chatterjee	Project Leader	35	Checked
Scott Wilson	Technical Advisor (M&E, policy, etc)	10	Checked
To be recruited	In-Country Project Manager	100	Checked
Amy Fitzmaurice	Technical Advisor (Livelihoods and community buy in)	15	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Babu Ram Lamichhane	In-country project lead (Nepal)	15	Checked


Ashish Gurung	Technical Assistant – Nepal	30	Checked
Rishi Ram Subedi	Project Sociologist – Nepal	30	Checked
Prakash Chapagain	Implementation Coordinator and sociologist - Nepal	100	Checked
Samir Sinha	In-country project lead (India)	20	Checked
Kamalika Bhattacharya	Technical Assistant - India	20	Checked
Subrat Kumar Behera	Implementation Coordinator & biologist - India	100	Checked
To be recruited	Project Sociologist – India	100	Checked


Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

 [Project team CVs\(1 page\) Combined Final](#)

 12/12/2022

 12:58:05

 pdf 3.44 MB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q32. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner - i.e. the partner who will administer the grant and coordinate the delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.

The partners listed here should correspond to the Delivery Chain Risk Map (within the Risk Register template) which you will be asked to submit if your project is recommended for funding.

Lead partner name: North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo)

Website address: <https://www.chesterzoo.org/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

NEZS (Chester Zoo) has vast experience in developing and executing a diverse array of multi-stakeholder conservation projects in the field across nearly every continent, including six Darwin initiative projects. It thus has a vast knowledge base as well as time-tested partnerships across the globe. NEZS has extensive in-house expertise in different fields, ranging across biological and social sciences that cater to skill building of in-country partners, as well as in development and implementation of rigorous conservation projects on the ground. NEZS also has good experience in structured monitoring and evaluation of projects as well as in measuring impacts meaningfully, which is crucial for all conservation projects. NEZS will be intricately involved in planning the implementation and monitoring of all the activities of the project as well as in managing the finances to ensure transparent accountability. It is also able to provide added support (and security) if and as required through various operational departments such as marketing, IT and other administrative support. Lastly, NEZS will also develop in-country partners capacity to address and tackle safeguarding issues, helping them develop and institute policy frameworks for this.

Allocated budget (proportion or value):



Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?

Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name:

National Trust for Nature Conservation

Website address:

<https://www.ntnc.org.np/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) was established in 1982 by a Legislative Act as an autonomous and not-for-profit organization, mandated to work in the field of nature conservation in Nepal. NTNC has undertaken nearly 300 conservation projects of different scopes in the country through support of global communities (WWF, USFWS, ZSL, DI, Smithsonian Institution, STF, NORAD, WB, UNDP, GEF, FAO, RAMSAR, USAID etc.). Project activity in Nepal part of this project will be implemented by the Chitwan program of the Trust (i.e. Biodiversity Conservation Center - BCC). NTNC will be responsible for implementation, monitoring, financial management and reporting. The BCC has a capacity to implement the project activities in partnership with respective government institutions (municipalities, protected area offices) and local community-based organizations such as buffer zone user committees and women's groups. The BCC has a well-equipped office set-up backed up with finance and administration units comprising ~50 staffs of wildlife biologist, socio-economist, rangers, wildlife technicians, social mobilizers and supporting human resources. It has a history of over four decades of wildlife research/monitoring, community engagement and wildlife crime control.

Allocated budget:



Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

2. Partner Name: Wildlife Trust of India

Website address: <https://www.wti.org/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

The Indian side of the transboundary project will be implemented by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), a leading wildlife conservation organisation. Since 2003, the organisation has been seminal in helping recover the tiger population in the Valmiki Tiger Reserve. WTI has also worked with the landscape's dominant "Tharu" tribes to improve their livelihoods and reduce their forest dependence for habitat recovery in Valmiki. Human-wildlife conflict mitigation is one of the nine thematic program areas that WTI works on. Under the program, WTI has demonstrated innovative and replicable large-scale human-wildlife conflict reduction and coexistence models. The organisation pioneered volunteer-based primary response mechanisms to reduce human-big cat conflict in the Dudhwa-Pilibhit landscape along the India-Nepal border and community-based human-elephant conflict mitigation in the Manas landscape in northeast India. Thus, the organisation's knowledge of the landscape and issues and experience in community-based conflict mitigation would help achieve project goals.

Allocated budget: ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes No

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes
 No

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes
 No

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details
(including roles
and
responsibilities *No Response*
and capacity to
engage with the
project):

**Allocated
budget:** £0.00


**Represented on
the Project
Board** Yes
 No


Have you
included a
Letter of Yes
Support from No
this
organisation?


If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.


No Response


Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.


 [Lead Applicant_DI Application Cover Letter Stage 2 - DIR29S2 - 1026](#)


 12/12/2022


 13:53:04

 pdf 180.86 KB

 [Partners_forest department and village community committee support letters_combined-compressed](#)

 12/12/2022

 11:02:55

 pdf 2.4 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q33. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
--------------	----------------	-------

28-025	Dr Claire Raisin	Stock-proof hedges to improve farming livelihoods and conserve Malagasy forests
25-011	Dr Alexandra Zimmerman	Andean bears and people: coexistence through poverty reduction
23-013	Dr Alexandra Zimmerman	Living with Tigers in Nepal: poverty reduction for human-wildlife coexistence
EIDPO-040	Dr Alexandra Zimmerman	The Assam Haathi Project
16-007	Dr Alexandra Zimmerman	Building Capacities for Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflicts in Assam, India
17-024	Dr Alexandra Zimmerman	Securing human–elephant co-existence in Sumatra

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo)

I apply for a grant of



I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.






(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, Safeguarding Policy and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application)
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Mayukh Chatterjee
Position in the organisation	Regional Field Programme Manager - Asia
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Signature_Mayukh Chatterjee_Cropped  12/12/2022  13:31:54  jpg 319.61 KB
Date	12 December 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 [audited accounts \(cz nezs\) 2020 & 2021-com](#)

 12/12/2022
 15:17:40
 pdf 5.96 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

 [combined safeguarding policy_nezs\(cz\)](#)
 12/12/2022
 13:29:10
 pdf 539.45 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Risk Guidance" and "Financial Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked

I have attached the below documents to my application	
• my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
• my budget (which meets the requirements above)	Checked
• my completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 31, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 32, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the Lead Partner's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 28.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	A network of community volunteers trained, equipped, and functionalised as Primary Response Team in project areas of Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa landscape.	36												
1.1	Conduct Focused Group Discussions (FGD) and individual interviews (using snowball sampling) for past data on human-tiger & human-leopard conflicts in project region.	4												
1.2	Conduct community consultations in project villages and other adjoining conflict prone villages to explain the need and function of Primary Response Teams and accrue volunteers	4												
1.3	Conduct an induction workshop for all volunteering PRTs in India and Nepal to introduce basics of the role and assess various competencies	1												
1.4	Provide equipment to enlisted PRT members and conduct specialized training each year to develop capacity of PRTs	3												
1.5	Inform and guide PRT members to successfully address conflict situations that are reported in and around their respective villages.	27												
1.6	Conduct annual evaluation workshop to assess functioning of PRTs, celebrate success, promote peer and community	3												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	support and cohesion, and recognize and reward strongly performing members													
Output 2	Livestock depredation in project villages significantly reduced through promotion of two tried and tested initiatives Predator Proof Pens (PPP) and promotion of stall-fed cattle, as well as a new experimental novel method, the eye-cow.	36												
2.1	Conduct household surveys to assess livestock ownership, grazing preferences etc. in all project villages, to assess priority need for interventions and willingness to participate.	4												
2.2	Organize consultative workshops in each project village to apprise potential beneficiaries of various techniques to reduce livestock depredation, record beneficiaries' choices and accrue formal consent	4												
2.3	Organize workshop using select previous Living with Tigers (LWT) project beneficiaries to train beneficiaries in manufacture and maintenance of Predator Proof Pens (PPP).	6												
2.4	Support the building of predator proof pens in all volunteering beneficiary households in villages by mid-year 2.	12												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.5	Conduct annual assessment of PPPs built through random house visits in at least 30% of beneficiary households and through maintenance logs.	3												
2.6	Prepare methodological framework for assessing eye-cow effectiveness in reducing livestock depredation and train field team	2												
2.7	Conduct workshop with volunteering livestock owners to apprise about the initiative, its need, the need for a systematic assessment, explain method of data logging, etc.	3												
2.8	Carry out livestock 'eye-cow' camp for all beneficiaries enlisting in the eye-cow initiative to imprint "eyes' on all their livestock.	10												
2.9	Monitor and collect data logs from each beneficiary on livestock grazing frequency and time, location, livestock loss, etc, on a monthly basis.	18												
2.10	Conduct workshop to apprise volunteering cattle owners in project villages on breed improvement and benefits of stall feeding and accrue consent from at least 50% of cattle owners in each village.	4												
2.11	Train local volunteers (select PRT members) in artificial insemination of cattle through state animal husbandry department	2												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	or private agency and provide equipment to carry out artificial insemination of cattle in consenting households.													
2.12	Carry out assessment of AI breeding improvement success and stall-feeding practice through a rapid survey at the end of project year.	9												
Output 3	At least 75% of targeted forest-dependent beneficiary communities in each of the 6 project villages benefit from 'green livelihoods (GL)', improved cookstoves, and/or sustainable cooking fuels, and significantly reduce their time spent in forest for natural resource collection	30												
3.1	Conduct household surveys to gather primary information to create baselines on forest resource dependency and identify potential beneficiaries for 'green' livelihood and cooking fuel adoption	4												
3.2	Conduct Participatory Rural Appraisals with potential beneficiaries to finalize interventions for reduction of forest dependency and conflict incidences, and accrue consent from them for different interventions	6												
3.3	Train local women to manufacture and repair fuel efficient cookstoves and involve them in manufacturing and installing these	6												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	in all consenting beneficiary homes in project villages													
3.4	Carry out ICS installations in beneficiary households through trained women volunteers	18												
3.5	Conduct training on different alternative livelihood options selected by beneficiaries, using appropriate resource persons from allied government and private sector institutions	9												
3.6	Provide technical and financial support to consenting beneficiaries to setup new 'green' livelihood options	24												
3.7	Establish a bi-annual self-reporting system with beneficiaries to monitor use ICS and different GLs adopted, as well as forest dependency, and collect self-reported data	18												
Output 4	Current narratives of human-large carnivore conflicts significantly altered to promote coexistence, through focussed capacity and knowledge building of local media personnel and wildlife managers.	36												
4.1	Conduct media report analysis on past reportage covering human-large carnivore conflicts in the project region, to segregate dominant narratives and tailor training and subsequent awareness	7												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
4.2	Survey of relevant forest department staff at various levels to assess knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions on human-wildlife conflicts in the region	6												
4.3	Create a master list of all print media personnel relevant to project region and contact them to apprise of the project and accrue consent for further engagement and capacity development.	5												
4.4	Conduct annual capacity development workshop for media personnel and selected Forest Department officers.	3												
4.5	Organize a ‘media for wildlife conservation’ event to foster trained media personnel to pledge to voice issue pertaining to wildlife through fact-based reporting.	1												
4.6	Carry out post assessment of FD officers and media reports at the end of project period.	3												
Output 5	A comprehensive understanding of mental health and wellbeing among the local communities established and a co-planned strategy to address impacts of HWC on mental health and wellbeing of people formulated for the project communities.	24												
5.1	Formulate methodology to assess mental health and wellbeing across project villages,	6												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	especially for most vulnerable groups and train survey consultants and field team													
5.2	Survey project villages and adjoining ones to assess mental health and wellbeing of villagers and the impact of human-wildlife conflicts on it.	12												
5.3	Conduct consultative meetings with village elders, representatives of forest department, media agencies, local NGO's, and other government agencies to discuss results of the assessment and formulate strategies to address mental health and wellbeing.	6												
5.4	Draft and disseminate strategic action plan to tackle mental health and wellbeing in relation to human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife conservation in the project region.	6												

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact (30 Words): Large carnivore populations are successfully conserved in the transboundary landscape of Nepal and India by bolstering human-large carnivore coexistence through community empowerment and wellbeing			
Outcome (30 Words): Negative impacts of human-large carnivore interactions significantly reduced in six 'model' villages around Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa landscape across India and Nepal, through participatory conflict management, poverty alleviation and behaviour change.	0.1: By end of year 3 at least 40% cases addressed by Primary Response Team (PRT) members are resolved amicably preventing further loss of human lives and injuries; death/injury of the wild animal involved; or the need for the animal's removal into captivity. 0.2: By end of year 3 livestock depredation by large carnivores reduced by at least 75% in all model villages where targeted interventions are implemented. 0.3: By end of year 3, at least 75% of beneficiaries engaged to adopt alternative cooking fuel and improved cook stoves, reducing the average frequency of trips and time spent in the forest by 60%. 0.4: By end of year 3, loss of income from reduced forest resource dependence amongst at	01: Details of cases attended by PRTs in the landscape, as well as qualitative analyses of different interventions made vis-à-vis outcome of the intervention, and comparison with previous years' baseline of outcome of conflict situations. 0.2: Comparison with baselines on past 3 years' average livestock depredation numbers in the project villages, as well as control villages from survey results and compensation records. 0.3: Comparison of self-reported data collected annually, against baselines on fuelwood collection and use created through sample survey at beginning of project	1. Development driven change in community aspirations will not negatively impact the overall goal of increasing tolerance for losses amongst local communities and their willingness for continued participation. 2. Major policy changes in either of the countries will not render futile any or all of the project's outputs.

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	<p>least 75% of beneficiaries of the programme is offset 100% with the income generated from adopted 'green' livelihoods</p> <p>0.5: By end of year 3, at least 25% of local media reports by 60% of the media personnel engaged, covering human-large carnivore conflicts, are fact based and neutral and at least 30% of cases addressed by the park and wildlife managers are resolved without capture and translocation of the large carnivore involved.</p> <p>0.6: By end of year 3, a comprehensive understanding is garnered on the impacts of varying dimensions of human-wildlife conflicts on people's mental health and wellbeing in rural communities in the project area, and a detailed strategic plan is produced and shared with all relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>0.4: Comparison against baselines collected at beginning of project on time-spent in forests and per-capita earnings from forest resources</p> <p>0.5.1: Content analysis of targeted media reports over course of project compared against content analysed for past 2-3 years of reportage.</p> <p>0.5.2: Comparative analyses of post-survey results, with baselines on past decisions and mitigation techniques employed by Wildlife management in the Protected Areas.</p> <p>0.6: Analysed survey results in published report and action plan.</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. A network of community volunteers trained, equipped and functionalised as Primary</p>	<p>1.1: Baseline for human-large carnivore conflicts created for project villages with details on outcome, mode of resolution, etc.</p>	<p>1.1: Database on human-tiger and human leopard conflicts and interventions, in and around project villages</p>	<p>1. Majority of enlisting volunteers will all contribute their services throughout the project period and beyond and</p>

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

<p>Response Team in project areas of Valmiki-Chitwan-Parsa landscape.</p>	<p>1.2: By end of year 1, at least 25 people each in Valmiki Tiger Reserve, Parsa NP and Chitwan NP inducted, trained and equipped as PRT members providing coverage across all project villages and adjoining areas.</p> <p>1.3: By end of year 3, at least 60% of all trained PRT members will actively respond and/or partake in efforts to mitigate human wildlife conflict (HWC) and resolve at least 40% of attended cases without capture of animals involved.</p>	<p>1.2: Training attendance and report.</p> <p>1.3.1: Case registers maintained by PRT members and field project team</p>	<p>suitable succession/recruitment will ensure teams remain in capacity.</p> <p>2.Trained volunteers will have regular opportunities to address HWC situations as HWC incident hotspots can spatially shift over time, or momentarily cease at certain hotspots.</p> <p>3. Volunteers are managed effectively to ensure continued engagement and enthusiasm about their roles and proactive response, to report and attend to all cases within their respective areas.</p>
<p>2. Livestock depredation in project villages significantly reduced through promotion of two tried and tested initiatives Predator Proof Pens (PPP) and promotion of stall-fed cattle, as well as a new experimental novel method, the eye-cow.</p>	<p>2.1: Baselines for livestock ownership, grazing preferences amongst project village households completed, and potential beneficiaries identified, and consent accrued, by mid of year 1.</p> <p>2.2. By mid-year 2, at least 25% of beneficiaries practicing livestock rearing actively build, maintain, and use PPPs.</p>	<p>2.1.1. Raw and analysed baseline information on types and number of livestock owned by households in project villages</p> <p>2.1.2: Beneficiary lists and signed consent forms</p> <p>2.2. Physical verification of PPPs built and used</p>	<p>1.Communities are willing to speak about livestock depredation freely before and after the project.</p> <p>2.Compensation records from government bodies will be shared for data analysis of livestock depredation.</p> <p>3.Communities will want PPPs and will maintain them.</p> <p>4. The eye-cow methods tested successfully with African lions and</p>

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	<p>2.3. By year 3 end, at least 90% of PPPs built still maintained and used.</p> <p>2.4. By end of Year 3, at least 25% of consenting beneficiaries begin stall feeding their improved cattle stocks.</p> <p>2.5. By end of year 3, eye-cow method of livestock protection tested rigorously with Bengal tigers and Asian leopards.</p>	<p>2.3. All Physical verification and through beneficiary feedback.</p> <p>2.4.1: Artificial insemination (AI) training course attendance and certificates</p> <p>2.4.2. Consent forms from beneficiaries, data on stall-fed varieties of cattle birth and survival</p> <p>2.5: Enumeration of livestock killed by tigers and leopards (especially of marked and unmarked livestock) through self-reporting by beneficiaries, government records and opportunistic in-field verification of kills.</p>	<p>African leopards will work with similar efficacy with Bengal tigers and Asian leopards.</p> <p>5. There will be enough fodder supply available for all stall-fed cattle and will not lead to increased fodder collection from forests.</p> <p>6. Communities will adhere to the designated eye-cow protocol so that results can be analyzed for effectiveness.</p>
<p>3. At least 75% of targeted forest-dependent beneficiary communities in each of the 6 project villages benefit from 'green livelihoods (GL)', improved cookstoves, and/or sustainable cooking fuels, and significantly reduce their time spent</p>	<p>3.1. Baselines on forest dependence of households for extraction of forest resources including fuelwood assessed for all project villages, and shortlisting of beneficiaries and accrual of consents completed by mid-Year 1.</p>	<p>3.1.1: Raw and analyzed baseline data on forest resource extraction by households of project villages and their per capita income from various resources.</p>	<p>1. Communities are willing to speak to the project team about forest-based resource collection and income from it openly.</p>

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

<p>in forest for natural resource collection</p>	<p>3.2. By end of year 2, 75% of prioritised beneficiaries in all project villages adopt an alternative fuel source and adopt a 'green-livelihood' (GL).</p> <p>3.3. By end of year 3, average trips to, and time spent per average trip to collect forest resources are both reduced to at least 60% amongst 75% of targeted beneficiaries.</p> <p>3.4: By end of year 3, 80% of beneficiaries engaged with a 'green' livelihoods', successfully sustain their new livelihood.</p>	<p>3.1.2: Beneficiary lists and written participation consents from all beneficiaries.</p> <p>3.2: Implementation reports and data from self-reporting on use and maintenance of cookstoves, as well as of GLs and earnings from it.</p> <p>3.3. Self-reporting by beneficiaries on income generated, as well as data from satisfaction survey across all beneficiaries in project villages.</p> <p>3.4: Self reporting on income generated per unit time by beneficiaries.</p>	<p>2. Communities are willing to adopt the use of improved cookstoves as well as a 'green-livelihood' option.</p> <p>3. After adopting improved cook stoves and non-forest-based fuels, beneficiaries will completely cease fuelwood collection for other purposes (additional cook stove, for heating water for bathing, etc.).</p> <p>4. Beneficiaries would significantly reduce their dependence on forest resources after adoption of sustainable 'green' livelihoods,</p> <p>5. Beneficiaries will be transparent in self reporting on their forest visits post adoption of Improved cook stoves and GLs.</p>
<p>4. Current narratives of human-large carnivore conflicts significantly altered to promote coexistence, through focussed capacity and knowledge building of local media personnel and wildlife managers.</p>	<p>4.1: By end of Year 1, Baseline created of print media narrative on human-large carnivore conflicts, as well as of forest department's knowledge and understanding of human-large carnivore conflicts, and mitigation measures employed by them.</p>	<p>4.1.1 Analysed report on print media content from project region on HWC and other wildlife issues.</p> <p>4.1.2: Survey results on knowledge and perceptions of Forest Department staff</p>	<p>1. Media representatives are willing to take part in the workshops.</p> <p>2. Media representatives despite engagement are free from pressures to negatively sensationalise news pieces, and will continue to publish fact-based, non-sensationalised stories.</p>

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

	<p>4.2: By end of Year 2, at least 70% of consented media personnel across all print dailies of region, and concerned wildlife managers and rangers of the Protected Areas (PA) attend workshops.</p> <p>4.3: By end of year 3, at least 60% of media personnel who have attended workshops pledge to act as the voice of both wildlife species and people and print fact-based reports non-sensationalized reports.</p> <p>4.4: By end of year 3, at least 50% of trained wildlife managers and rangers exhibit a clear understanding of human-large carnivore issues in their landscape and can tackle at least 30% of the situations they address without needing to capture and translocate the animals involved.</p>	<p>4.2: Consent forms & Workshop attendance registers.</p> <p>4.3: Signed pledge board/card and media posts on event.</p> <p>4.4: Pre-and Post-test results and comparison of cases addressed and resolved before and after capacity development.</p>	<p>3. Forest Department officials will be open to changed practices and behaviours and will be willing to partake in the workshops</p> <p>4. Despite increased awareness Forest Department will be free from political and social pressures to take proactive decisions on the ground.</p>
<p>5. A comprehensive understanding of mental health and wellbeing among the local communities established and a co-planned strategy to address impacts of HWC on mental</p>	<p>5.1: By end of year 2, baselines for mental health and wellbeing vis-à-vis its drivers established for people of project villages.</p>	<p>5.1. Raw and analysed qualitative and quantitative data on mental health and wellbeing from systematic survey across project and adjoining villages</p>	<p>1. Local communities are conscious and cognizant about poor mental health and wellbeing and are willing to talk about it freely.</p>

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

<p>health and wellbeing of people formulated for the project communities.</p>	<p>5.2: By end of year 3, a co-planned and co-developed detailed strategic plan to foster better mental health and wellbeing is drafted and shared with all relevant stakeholders including peer communities.</p>	<p>5.2. Strategy document</p>	<p>2. Local people share concerns of mental health issues being a pertinent problem that needs addressing and there are not already cultural mechanisms in place to address any issues, if any.</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)</p> <p>1.1: Conduct Focused Group Discussions (FGD) and individual interviews (using snowball sampling) for past data on human-tiger & human-leopard conflicts in project region.</p> <p>1.2: Conduct community consultations in project villages and other adjoining conflict prone villages to explain the need and function of Primary Response Teams and accrue volunteers</p> <p>1.3: Conduct an induction workshop for all volunteering PRTs in India and Nepal to introduce basics of the role and assess various competencies.</p> <p>1.4: Provide equipment to enlisted PRT members and conduct specialized training each year to develop capacity of PRTs</p> <p>1.5: Inform and guide PRT members to successfully address conflict situations that are reported in and around their respective villages.</p> <p>1.6: Conduct annual evaluation workshop to assess functioning of PRTs, celebrate success, promote peer and community support and cohesion, and recognize and reward strongly performing members.</p> <p>2.1: Conduct household surveys to assess livestock ownership, grazing preferences etc. in all project villages, to assess priority need for interventions and willingness to participate.</p> <p>2.2: Organize consultative workshops in each project village to apprise potential beneficiaries of various techniques to reduce livestock depredation, record beneficiaries' choices and accrue formal consent.</p> <p>2.3. Organize workshop using select previous Living With Tigers (LWT) project beneficiaries to train beneficiaries in manufacture and maintenance of Predator Proof Pens (PPP).</p> <p>2.4. Support the building of predator proof pens in all volunteering beneficiary households in villages by mid-year 2.</p> <p>2.5. Conduct annual assessment of PPPs built through random house visits in at least 30% of beneficiary households and through maintenance logs.</p> <p>2.6. Prepare methodological framework for assessing eye-cow effectiveness in reducing livestock depredation and train field team</p>			

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

- 2.7. Conduct workshop with volunteering livestock owners to apprise about the initiative, its need, the need for a systematic assessment, explain method of data logging, etc.
 - 2.8. Carry out livestock 'eye-cow' camp for all beneficiaries enlisting in the eye-cow initiative to imprint "eyes" on all their livestock.
 - 2.9. Monitor and collect data logs from each beneficiary on livestock grazing frequency and time, location, livestock loss, etc, on a monthly basis.
 - 2.10. Conduct workshop to apprise volunteering cattle owners in project villages on breed improvement and benefits of stall feeding and accrue consent from at least 50% of cattle owners in each village.
 - 2.11: Train local volunteers (select PRT members) in artificial insemination of cattle through state animal husbandry department or private agency and provide equipment to carry out artificial insemination of cattle in consenting households.
 - 2.12: Carry out assessment of AI breeding improvement success and stall feeding practice through a rapid survey at the end of project year.
-
- 3.1: Conduct household surveys to gather primary information to create baselines on forest resource dependency and identify potential beneficiaries for 'green' livelihood and cooking fuel adoption
 - 3.2: Conduct Participatory Rural Appraisals with potential beneficiaries to finalize interventions for reduction of forest dependency and conflict incidences, and accrue consent from them for different interventions.
 - 3.3: Train local women to manufacture and repair fuel efficient cookstoves and involve them in manufacturing and installing these in all consenting beneficiary homes in project villages.
 - 3.4: Carry out ICS installations in beneficiary households through trained women volunteers.
 - 3.5: Conduct training on different alternative livelihood options selected by beneficiaries, using appropriate resource persons from allied government and private sector institutions.
 - 3.6: Provide technical and financial support to consenting beneficiaries to setup new 'green' livelihood options
 - 3.7: Establish a bi-annual self-reporting system with beneficiaries to monitor use ICS and different GLs adopted, as well as forest dependency, and collect self-reported data.
-
- 4.1: Conduct media report analysis on past reportage covering human-large carnivore conflicts in the project region, to segregate dominant narratives and tailor training and subsequent awareness.
 - 4.2: Survey of relevant forest department staff at various levels to assess knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions on human-wildlife conflicts in the region.
 - 4.3: Create a master list of all print media personnel relevant to project region and contact them to apprise of the project and accrue consent for further engagement and capacity development.
 - 4.4: Conduct annual capacity development workshop for media personnel and selected Forest Department officers.

Project Title: Living with large carnivores – Integrative coexistence through community empowerment

4.5: Organize a 'media for wildlife conservation' event to foster trained media personnel to pledge to voice issue pertaining to wildlife through fact-based reporting.

4.6: Carry out post assessment of FD officers and media reports at the end of project period.

5.1: Formulate methodology to assess mental health and wellbeing across project villages, especially for most vulnerable groups and train survey consultants and field team.

5.2: Survey project villages and adjoining ones to assess mental health and wellbeing of villagers and the impact of human-wildlife conflicts on it.

5.3: Conduct consultative meetings with village elders, representatives of forest department, media agencies, local NGO's, and other government agencies to discuss results of the assessment and formulate strategies to address mental health and wellbeing.

5.4: Draft and disseminate strategic action plan to tackle mental health and wellbeing in relation to human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife conservation in the project region.