

Indo-German Technical Cooperation on
**Human Wildlife
Conflict Mitigation
in India**



Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change,
Government of India



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Wildlife, Ecosystem Services and Human Well-being

Biodiversity is fundamental to sustain ecosystem processes, functions and the continued delivery of ecosystem services, which are the foundation of livelihood security, health and overall well-being of human societies.

Conservation of biodiversity, including wildlife, is essential for India, not only because the consequences of biodiversity loss and the resulting loss of ecosystem services have a far reaching impact on livelihoods and overall well-being of human communities, but also because of the cultural heritage where coexistence is the natural way of living.

This situation in India, however, is changing. Increasing human population and consequent demand for natural resources is leading to degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats, thus creating a situation where the humans and wildlife are competing for the same resources.

The shift from 'co-existence' to 'conflict' has the potential to undermine the existing and future conservation efforts, and also hinder achievement of both Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Biodiversity Targets.



Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation

Human-wildlife conflict brings economic losses to the tune of millions of rupees to the rural communities in India every year. The increasing frequency and intensity of crop damage and the emotional stigma attached, especially to cases of killing of humans and cattle, are making the communities less tolerant to wildlife.

Mitigation of human-wildlife conflict is thus becoming one of the key issues of concern for both wildlife managers and the scientific community. Apart from the Government, there are a number of scientific institutions, NGOs and experts who are working towards finding solutions for mitigating human-wildlife conflict. As a result, there are cases where the joint efforts from these agencies have reduced the incidence or impact of human-wildlife conflict.

Management of Human wildlife conflict in India is an urgent and important issue. It is necessary to address the issue in a holistic manner, and co-create the mitigation solutions, with full engagement of all the relevant stakeholders.

There is a need to create an enabling environment for wildlife managers as well as communities to address the conflict situation and strengthen their capacities in the most efficient and effective manner.



About the Project

Duration

November 2017 to October 2021

Commissioned by

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has committed resources up to 4 million Euro.

Implementation Partners

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

State Forest Departments of Karnataka, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal

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The main objective of the project is that **the rural population in project areas, where agreed guidelines and tools are applied to mitigate human wildlife conflicts, is better protected against Human wildlife conflict.**

The project aims at providing technical support at the National level and in selected States for effective implementation of Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation measures.

In order to achieve this objective, the project focuses on three Output areas:

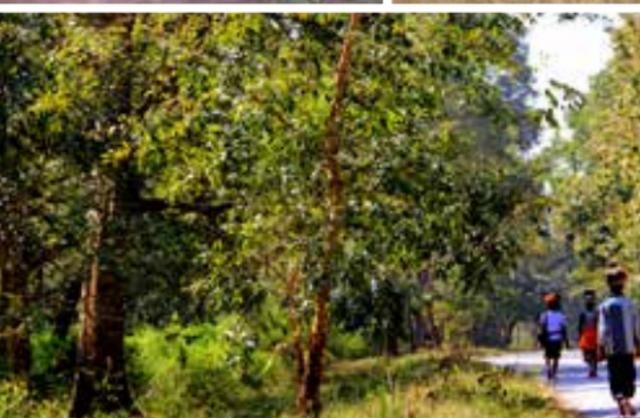
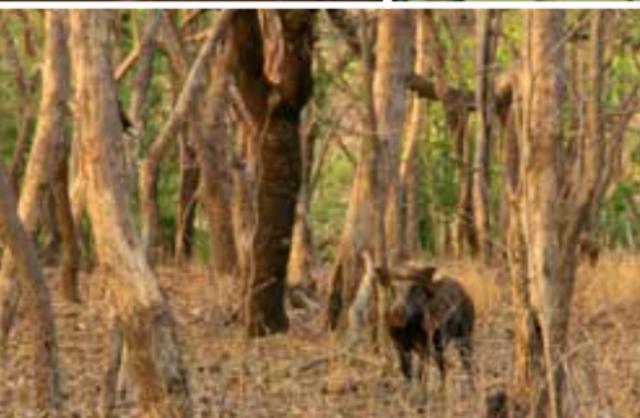
- Development of strategy and action plan to reduce human wildlife conflict at National level and in selected states
- Pilot application of a holistic approach and instruments for the mitigation of human wildlife conflicts in three project partner states
- Facilitating capacity development of key stakeholders for mitigating human wildlife conflict in India

Project Approach

The project takes the approach of harmonious coexistence, by ensuring that both – human and wildlife – are protected from conflicts. This approach follows the modern wildlife conservation principles to balance the needs of people with the conservation of nature.

- Primary focus is on capacity development through technical support
- The project takes a holistic approach in addressing Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) by considering the “thematic triangle” of driver-prevention-damage mitigation, at the national, state, and local levels across three output areas.
- Focus on human well-being of the most vulnerable sections of society (e.g. rural poor and women)
- A Multi-level approach with mutual learning feedback loop (National, selected States, Pilot sites), engaging key stakeholders throughout the implementation of project at all levels.
- A key focus area is facilitating capacity development of the key stakeholders, using participatory training methods and other capacity development measures.





The Indo-German Cooperation

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale

Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is an enterprise owned by the German Government. GIZ implements sustainable development through international cooperation, on behalf of Germany and other partners. With its presence in over 120 countries, GIZ leverages its regional and technical expertise for local innovation.

In India, GIZ has been working jointly with partners for sustainable economic, ecological and social development over the last 50 years. The thematic areas of GIZ in India are Energy; Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity; Sustainable Urban and Industrial Development; and Sustainable Economic Development.

The Indo-German Biodiversity Programme is working with its overarching goal of sustainable use of biological diversity to support livelihoods for future generations. The Programme addresses the challenges of biodiversity conservation in seven complementary areas:

- Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (HWC)
- Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services (HP-FES)
- Valuation of Ecosystem Services (TII)
- India Business and Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI)
- Private Business Action for Biodiversity (PBAB)
- Conservation and Sustainable use of Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (CMPA)

Indo-German Technical Cooperation Project
Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (HWC) in India

Commissioned by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Responsible Dr. Konrad Uebelhör, Director,
Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, GIZ India

For Further Information Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Government of India
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi-110003, India
E igfwl-mef@nic.in

Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (HWC) Project
Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, GIZ India
A-2/18, Safdarjung Enclave,
New Delhi-110029, India
E neeraj.khera@giz.de



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Indo-German Biodiversity Programme
A-2/18, Safdarjung Enclave
New Delhi - 110029, India

T +91-11-4949 5353
E biodiv.india@giz.de
W www.indo-germanbiodiversity.com

Designed Aspire Design, New Delhi

Photos Wildlife Institute of India
Neeraj Khera, Aditya Bisht