**Appendix 1: Snow Leopard Enterprise Program Description and Original Theory of Change**

**Shen Program Description**

The selection of villages to participate in the program was based on expressions of interest received from village women and program staff knowledge. In each selected village, interested women were encouraged to come together as a group to work on handicraft production and conservation activities. A committee comprised of nominated representatives from among the participants was responsible for exchanging information between the group and the conservation organizations, supporting training activities and negotiating product prices and quantities. The committee is responsible for monitoring the costs of inputs, such as raw materials and time expended. The entire group was provided training by specialists at least once a year in skills like knitting and crochet, as well as product design based on which the participants prepared products for sale. Raw material (wool) and equipment were provided to the participants at the start of each production season. The handicraft production cycles were planned for the winter months (November to March) every year, in line with women’s preferences and availability. Through the summer months women spend most of their time on agricultural tasks, the primary source of income for most households. Women were able to participate in *Shen* activities only after the harvest and once winter set in, when they had some time on their hands. Participants were compensated for the number and type of products they made. We took the responsibility of negotiating with sales outlets in regional markets. Each winter, self-selected women among the participants joined an organized visit to locations outside Spiti Valley to showcase their handicrafts in traditional craft exhibitions and to share insights and experiences related to handicraft and conservation work with like-minded organizations.

A yearly bonus was provided to groups that took actions to protect wildlife in the pastures surrounding the respective villages. Starting 2016, participating women were encouraged to record their conservation actions in the group’s ‘Conservation Diary’. The women identified their own priorities linked to local conservation and environmental challenges and recorded their actions in the diary from their own perspective. Program staff regularly reviewed the diaries and discussed these recorded activities, which were used as a basis for conservation bonus payments.

**Aims**

*Shen* considers women as critical actors in bringing about conservation action. The intervention **aims** to a) enhance women’s agency at the household and community level, b) increase their involvement in conservation action at the local level and c) improve community attitudes towards carnivores and wildlife. This is primarily achieved through the following intervention **‘**outputs**’:**

**Outputs**

Improving women’s livelihood skills, helping them generate income, providing them opportunities to represent their work in various for a, and encouraging local action in conservation. These ‘outputs’ are together expected to contribute to three key expected ‘outcomes’.

**Outcomes**

1. The livelihood program would generate sufficient income to improve household financial security and empower participating women to play a more active role at household and community levels.
2. There would be improvement in attitudes towards conservation of snow leopards and other wildlife. We expect that community members would be more tolerant towards snow leopards and be willing to work constructively with conservationists including at times of depredation.
3. The bonus system would stimulate the engagement of women in local conservation activities, such as action to prevent poaching, retaliatory killing or disturbance of wildlife.

The last two outcomes are expected to be achieved in the context of multi-pronged conservation efforts including other community-wide interventions such as community-based livestock insurance, grazing-free zone development and a range of conservation training and education activities.

**Impact**

The long-term expected impact of Shen would be two fold: to prevent instances of killing of wildlife (including retaliatory killing of snow leopards), and to strengthen community action and cooperation in protection of wildlife.

**Appendix 2: Ethical Statement**

Part 1.

**Our project ethical statement**

**DARWIN Project - Ethical statement**

Through our work we will ensure that all project staff are aware of and follow the PARTNERS Principles. In particular, project staff will ensure that:

* The project meets the legal and ethical obligations of the UK and the country involved.
* The health and safety of all staff working full and part time on the project is protected
* Any project staff involved in the design or conducting of research should maintain the independence and integrity of the research process and ensure that they maintain an intellectual detachment from any personal convictions relating to the topic of their research.
* Informed consent of participants is gained
* Confidentiality of participants is protected
* Participation in the project is voluntary
* Respectful engagement with communities is achieved, in which:
  + Fundamental dignity of participants and communities is respected
  + Communities are treated as equal partners
  + Any discord within communities is to be respected
  + Beneficence and non-malfeasance are followed as guiding principles
* Transparency is prioritized by:
  + Sharing information on potential impacts of the project on participants and communities
  + Providing impartiality and equitable opportunities
  + Allowing community members to appoint local coordinators as needed to ensure transparency and impartiality in choice
  + Empathy will be a guiding principle, to better understand challenges and constraints within which communities and participants operate
* Data will be stored centrally in data repository and anonymised.

**Part 2.**

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INFORMATION SHEET – for household surveys

**Collaborative conflict management for community livelihoods & snow leopard conservation.**

Snow leopards are rare and endangered. However, they can also kill livestock and our project is looking at ways of helping herder families and communities deal with these problems. As part of this work we are talking to people in communities throughout this area to ask about livestock and the predators. We wish to ask a few questions about your household, livestock, your views of predators and the different conservation programmes that you may be aware of in this area.

The interview will not take long – maybe up to 30 minutes (*answer here will vary from region to region depending on previous questionnaire experience*). The answers you give us will be kept safe and anonymous.

You do not have to take part. If you would prefer not to be involved that is fine and you do not have to give a reason. If you take part but later change your mind you can also withdraw at any time. If you need time to decide whether you want to be involved that is fine – let us know and we will come back later.

The information you give will be kept safe and anonymous and your identity will not divulged to anyone outside the project.

**Frequently asked questions.**

**What are the possible risks of taking part?** There is very little risk – the answers you give us will be kept safe and anonymous. If you have any particular concerns please ask us.

**Are there any possible benefits?** We hope that by understanding what you and others in your community think about the different conservation programmes we can then help design better schemes in the future. We expect that ultimately this will benefit you, your household and your community, and help you to cope with the loss of livestock to snow leopards and wolves.

**Do I have to take part?**

No, taking part is totally voluntary.

**What happens to any information that you obtain?**

All the information you give us will be treated with the strictest confidence. At no cost will your identity be divulged to a third party

**Will you pay my expenses?**

No. I’m afraid that we have no resources to pay expenses.

**Can I get any more information?**

Of course. If you have any other queries, please feel free to contact us at: *provide local address, name of coordinator and telephone number*

**Research Team – *To be filled in by country teams***

*Names*

*Addresses*

*E-mail/telephone*

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