

S1: Questionnaire used for household survey



Buffer Zone Household Survey on Park Revenue Sharing and Human-Wildlife Conflict 2022



Section A: HH Profile and Personal Background

Interview #: _____ Date: __MM/DD__ PA: _____
Village: _____ Strata: <1 km. >1 km. Gender: __M/F__
Ethnicity: _Brahmin/Chhetri _Janajati _Bote/Musahar /Tharu _Dalit _Other minorities
Age: _____years Roof type: __ Concrete __Zink __ Wood __ Thatch/straw
__ Soil __Stone __Others

A1. Are you native to this region? Yes No

1.1 If not, in which year you started living in this village? _____(YYYY)

A2. Which of the following best describes your education level

No education at all Literate Some school High school Some college College degree

A3. How many people are in your family: Total_____, Children (under 16):_____

A4. What is the household's most important source of income? (Check One)

Farming Jobs in government offices Pensions, allowances
 Jobs in private agencies Daily wage employment Foreign Employment

A5. How much land does your family currently own in this area?

Terai: _____Bigha _____Kathha

Hills: _____Ropani _____Aana

A6. Does your farm grow enough to feed your family for the year? __ Yes, __ No *Only for* ___Months

A7. Do you own livestock? __ Yes __ No

A8. If yes, how many livestock do you own? _____Cattle _____Goat/sheep

A9. Does your farm/pasture produce enough forage for your cattle? __ Yes, __ No: *only for* ___Months

A10. Is your household a member of the BZ community forestry user group? __ Yes, __ No

Section B: Perceived Benefits and Costs of Living Near the Park

B1. To what extent do you think your household benefits from the following resources of the national park?

| | Not at all | A little | A lot |
|---|------------|----------|-------|
| Availability of resources (e.g., firewood, food, fodder) for extraction | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Ecosystem services (e.g., environment, no pollution, no noise, aesthetic) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Recreation (e.g., visiting the park, safari) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Community development through park-funded activities (e.g., road development, school, community building) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Business opportunity (e.g., selling produce, handicrafts, poultry, vegetable farming) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Preservation of endangered species (e.g. tiger, elephant) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Employment opportunities directly or indirectly supported by the park (e.g., Park, hotel, tourism) | 1 | 2 | 3 |

B2. To what extent do you believe your household has been impacted by the following for living near the national park.

| | Not at all | A little | A lot |
|--|------------|----------|-------|
| Prohibition of extracting resources (e.g., firewood, food, fodder) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Damage to crops or livestock by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Attacks on humans by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Dispute with park officials (e.g., staff, law enforcement) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Park-related laws impacting everyday life (e.g., traveling, moving goods) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Park-related laws impacting private business (e.g., mining, fishing) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Park-related laws impacting land use activities (e.g., cutting trees, small saw-mill, hauling furniture, land development) | 1 | 2 | 3 |

B3. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

| | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Don't know |
|---|----------|---------|-------|--------------------------|
| The presence of a national park makes this place very special to me | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Living near the park always involves some level of risk of damage/attack from wild animals | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Despite the occasional attack on humans and damage to property, wild animals are worth protecting | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| National Park contributes significantly to the development of my community | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I am willing to tolerate the fear of attack by wild animals | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My family is capable of absorbing the occasional damage/loss caused by wild animals | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B4. Which of the following statements best describes your view regarding how national park management should take wildlife and human concerns into management consideration? (CHECK ONE)

- 1 The highest priority should be given to the local people, even if it hurts the wildlife
- 2 Both the people and the wildlife are important but the people should come first
- 3 Both the people and the wildlife are important but the wildlife should come first

4 The highest priority should be given to protecting the wildlife, even if it hurts local people

Section C: Perceived Change in Wildlife Populations and Human-Wildlife Conflicts

C1. Over the past **10 years**, how do you think the following has changed?

| | Decreased greatly | Decreased slightly | No change | Increased slightly | Increased greatly |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Local people enter the park to extract resources | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sighting of wild animals inside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sighting of wild animals outside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Attacks on livestock by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Damage to crops by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Attacks on humans by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Use of poisons/traps in farms | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Poaching activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Arrests by park authority/ law enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Number of neighbors upset with the park authority | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Perceived importance of the park among local people | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The positive attitude of local people towards the park staff | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

C2. Over the past ten years, how do you think the wild animal's activities (attack, damage) changed in your village (i.e. outside the park boundary)?

Decreasing, go to C4 No change, go to C5 Increasing, go to C3

C3. Which of the following are the reasons for the increase in wildlife sightings in yours?

| | Not a reason | Minor reason | Major reason |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| The overall increase in wildlife population over the years | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Declining habitat conditions inside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Expanded habitat in new forests (e.g., community forests, plantations) outside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Increase in abandoned farmlands outside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Other..... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | |

Go to C5

C4. Which of the following are the reasons for the decrease in wildlife sightings in your village)?

| | Not a reason | Minor reason | Major reason |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| The overall decline in wildlife population over the years | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| The decline in forest and habitat outside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Improved habitat conditions inside the park | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Other..... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | |

Go to C5.

C5. Over the past **5 years**, how frequently have you or anyone in your family had the following experience incidences caused by either the wild animals or the park staff?

| | Never (0 times) | Rarely (Once in a few years) | Occasionally (once each year) | Frequently (> 1 time each year) |
|--|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Animal attack on humans/livestock | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Damage to crops, property by wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Dispute with park staff/administration | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

C6. If you experienced a loss due to wildlife damage or attack in the past two years, are you satisfied with the compensation provided?

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Completely satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I did not claim any compensation</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Had no damage</i> |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|

Section D: Buffer Zone Program and Buffer Zone Fund

Many years ago, the government designated the villages surrounding the NP as the Buffer Zone (BZ). Under this program, villages designated as BZ observe some restrictions on land use (e.g. tree harvesting, query, mining, gravel/stone extraction, etc.), and a certain portion of park income (BZ funds) is provided to those villages to help promote conservation and development activities, including income generation, conservation, community development, etc.

D1. Before hearing this, how familiar were you with the following?

| | Did not know anything | Heard of it but did not know the specifics | Somewhat familiar | Mostly familiar |
|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| BZ as a government program | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Provision of BZ funds shared with local communities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Allocation of BZ funds among the headings (e.g., community development, conservation, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The operational process of BZ funds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regulatory control of development/land use activities inside the BZ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| People that represent residents in BZ institutions (UG, UC, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Knowledge of people or projects benefitted from BZ funds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|

D2. Based on your understanding of BZ funds, do you believe this fund is provided for compensation to the households impacted by wildlife?

Yes No Not sure

D3. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

| | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Don't know |
|--|----------|---------|-------|--------------------------|
| Most people in my village are aware of BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ fund is too little to generate meaningful benefit for the locals | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I (or my family member) have benefitted from the buffer zone funds/programs (e.g., training, IGA, soft loan) | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Buffer zone funds have benefitted my community | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ funds have been allocated to benefit those who are impacted the most by wild animals | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ funds have been utilized wisely among activities (e.g., conservation, development) | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sharing of BZ funds among user groups is unfair | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ funds have benefitted worthy projects and people | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regardless of the amount of BZ funds given to local communities, the BZ program positively contributes to conservation | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local people have reasonable control in decisions over how to prioritize spending of BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ funds should be used to compensate for wildlife damage than for funding development projects | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D4. To what extent do you think the BZ program has contributed in the following areas:

| | Not at all | A little | A lot | Don't know |
|--|------------|----------|-------|--------------------------|
| Raising conservation awareness among the local people | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mobilizing local community organizations in conservation programs | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Conserving forests and other natural resources (e.g., river bank) in BZ | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fulfilling household needs of forests (e.g., firewood, fodder) | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fulfilling household needs of other natural resources (e.g., gravel, stone, etc.) | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reducing local dependence on park resources | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Promoting community development | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Compensating victims of wildlife attack/damage | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Compensating victims of river cutting/landslide victims | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Enhancing livelihood options for BZ residents | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Helping locals realize the importance of the national park | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improving the relationship between the park and local people | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adding legal hassles to private landowners | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adding complication to the utilization of natural resources (e.g., debris wood, stream sediment query, etc.) in BZ | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D5. Please indicate your agreement with the following statements about BZ institutions (Council, UC, UG) and the BZ funds allocations.

| | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Don't know |
|--|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| I trust the people in the BZ institutions to make decisions that are best for the people | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I have confidence in the people in BZ institutions to prioritize BZ funds for the people needing the most | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I trust park staff and the BZ council to work together in reducing human-wildlife conflict | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I am satisfied with the way BZ funds are utilized | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most people in my village believe the BZ funds are used wisely | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most people in my village appreciate the community development projects funded by the BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most people in my village appreciate the human-wildlife conflict mitigation measures (e.g., fences, machan, alternative crops,) funded by the BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most people in my village appreciate the wildlife habitat improvement activities (e.g., water holes, grassland) funded by the BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Most of the people in my village appreciate the training/ awareness program about wildlife behavior, law enforcement, etc. funded by the BZ funds | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Knowing that my community receives part of park income has helped me realize the benefit of the park to local people | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regulatory control of development/land use activities on my property due to BZ laws is not a problem for me | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regardless of its direct benefit to me, the BZ program has contributed positively to conservation and sustainable development in my region | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| In reducing human-wildlife conflict, providing BZ funds to compensate the victims of wildlife will be more effective than funding community development projects | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D6. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding current regulations related to BZ and national parks.

| | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Don't know |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| There is satisfactory coordination between the park and the local government regarding the enforcement of BZ laws | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ laws have been obstacles to the development and growth of my village | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Since the BZ program started, new conservation activities (community forests, plantation, etc.) in the BZ has expanded habitat for wildlife | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ laws controlling land development are not enough for the long-term protection of the park | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The population growth and urban development in the BZ area will negatively impact the wildlife inside the national park | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BZ residents should not do anything that will harm the wild animals in the park | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I will support laws prohibiting land-use practices in BZ that directly or indirectly threaten the existence of wild animals in the park | 1 | 2 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

Thank you very much for your information and time with us !