



## GEF-Satoyama Subgrantee Highlights Report

Organization Name:	TERI
Country:	India
Reporting Quarter:	FY19 Q2 (October to December 2018)
Person submitting Report:	

### <Highlight 1>: Second Biodiversity Meet

TERI organized the second ecotourist meet from 27 October to 4 November, 2018. Thirteen participants, including experienced naturalists, adventurers, photographers, students, professors, and nature lovers from Delhi, Mumbai, and the US gathered for the meet. Faunal surveys in the three villages of Zunheboto district by the TERI team, in association with Titli Trust and many volunteers prior to this meet, has led to a checklist of 222 species of birds, 200 species of butterflies, and more than 200 species of moths so far. During this meet, there were several interesting faunal sightings, including a large flock of Grey-headed Parrotbills (*Paradoxornis gularis*), the Malay Tree Shrew (*Tupaia belangeri*), and the Green Rat Snake (*Gonyosoma oxycephalum*).

The cloud-kissed mountains, spectacular vistas, and the warm and welcoming Naga tribal communities from Zunheboto, ensured that the visitors had a wonderful glimpse of Naga life. The Sema people of Sukhai and Kivikhu entranced the visitors with their tribal dances and traditional yodeling and fire lighting skills. Most importantly, the visitors learned about Nagaland's many community-conserved areas and their efforts to protect wildlife and forests. Inspired by this visit, Gillian Wright, a well-known writer documents her journey in the London-based Wire magazine. These visits help to encourage local communities in their conservation efforts, add to the information on the fauna and provide a fillip to nature-based ecotourism. The visitors in Zunheboto were hosted by the Tizu Valley Biodiversity Conservation & Livelihood Network.

### <Highlight 2>: Design of logo for the Tizu Valley Network

A logo has been designed for the network showing an endemic butterfly (Naga sapphire) and interesting bird (Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill) with the Tizu river snaking through. Footsteps of people follow the Tizu river to indicate this is a people's effort. This logo is meant to highlight the people's conservation efforts as well as emphasize their focus on bird and butterfly-based ecotourism. See below for picture.

### <Highlight 3>: Organisation of ecotourism training 6-13<sup>th</sup> December

The last formal training as part of the GEF-Satoyama was held from 6th to 13th December. Sanjay Sondhi of Titli Trust along with Yatish Lele and Pia Sethi of TERI acted as the facilitators. Separate sessions were held with men and women and the differences between sustainable ecotourism and tourism were emphasized. AirBnB was requested to carry out follow up training. However, the need to maintain the community driven nature of the ecotourism initiative was emphasized. The bird list of the

area was further augmented with interesting sightings including the Red billed Scimitar Babbler, Grey-headed parrotbill, Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Black eared Shrike Babbler, Black throated Sunbird.

<Highlight 4>: Organisation of the second resilience training workshop in the project villages

The second assessment of the resilience workshop for SEPLS was undertaken in the project area to map the impact of the project on the landscape. The results of the first and second workshop were then compared to analyse the progress in the project. It was found that the degree of protection has increased since the first assessment with the formation of CCAs and banning of hunting and fishing in the village landscapes. The traditional knowledge about biodiversity which was earlier passed orally from generation to generation has now been documented and preserved for posterity through People's Biodiversity Registers. While earlier there was no multi stakeholder platform to manage the natural resources of the area, the project has now set up the Tizu Valley Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Network (TBCLN) to manage the landscape for biodiversity conservation and ecotourism. Some community members have also profited by supplementary livelihood options through eco-tourism which was introduced through project. The assessment indicated that the project has helped improve the forests and the socio economic condition of the landscape.

<Highlight 5>: Visit to Tsuruhu village in Satoi area

A visit was paid to the biodiversity rich area of Satoi, believed to harbor Blyth's Tragopan and Hoolock's Gibbon. The idea was to see if with further funding, ecotourism could be extended. The people were eager to be a part of the ecotourism initiative and have already banned hunting. Several interesting birds were sighted and the local people confirmed that the Blyth's Tragopan was found here. Some interesting sightings from this included the Assam Laughing Thrush, Yellow cheeked Tit and Rusty winged Fulvetta.

<Highlight 6>: Organisation of first Chengu festival by Sukhai visit on January 7<sup>th</sup>- 9, 2019

The sustainability of the community conservation initiative in the three villages sponsored by GEF Satoyama via Conservation International is now quite evident from a biodiversity awareness festival that was independently organized by the Tizu Valley Network. Ivan Zhimomi of Sukhai village played a leadership role. Attending the awareness festival targeted at the youth were members of the Forest Department including the local District Forest Officer Mr Raj Kumar, the Wildlife Warden of Nagaland, Mr. Tokaho Kinimi, members of the Nagaland Tourism Association, including Mr David Angami, its President, a well known Naga bird guide Angulie Meyase, members of the NGO FES, a pebble artist Ibolli Zhimo, etc. Members of Airbnb came for a training programme, kids were taken on nature walks, workshops were conducted, cultural activities held and folk songs dedicated to nature were sung. The students union of the three villages were present. The committees are now being declared as Biodiversity Management Committees under the Biological Diversity Act and the CCA area as Community Reserves under the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

#### Photos

Please include a description of each photo, the name of the person the photo is credited to and the organization they are affiliated to.

Ecotourism Training



Pics Pia Sethi  
Second Ecotourist Meet



Pic Siddharth Edake



Pics: Siddharth Edake



A Malay Tree Shrew sighted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> biodiversity meet. Pic Tshetsholo Naro

The logo



The village of Tsuruhu has declared their CCA as a Community Reserve under the Wildlife (Protection) Act. The Tizu Valley Network is following suit.



With the people of Tsuruhu



Pics by Pia Sethi

Yatish conducting the second resilience assessment with some of the men at Kivikhu



Pic by Vihoto

The first *Chengu* festival organized independently by the Tizu Valley Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Network



Pics: Ivan Zhimomi



The wildlife Warden of Nagaland, Mr Tokaho Kinimi taking the kids for a nature walk



Pebble art. Many of these are exact copies of pics taken by the local community!! They were all sold out

A training programme

