

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2013-2014**



**Wildlife  
Trust  
of India**

[www.wti.org.in](http://www.wti.org.in)

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## Our Vision

**A Secure Natural Heritage of India**

Cover Pic - Rehabilitated rhino with her calf born in the wild. Photo-WTI  
Inside Cover - An elephant calf at CWRC. Photo-WTI  
Back Inside - An otter pup being fed milk at CWRC. Photo-WTI  
Back Cover - Amur falcon in Nagaland. Photo-Ishaan Raghunandan/WTI

# WTI's Big Ideas

## Species Recovery

Recover populations of selected threatened species where WTI can make the most difference, using improved techniques, intensive management, conservation breeding, reintroduction and restocking.

## Rescue and Rehabilitation

Increase welfare of individual displaced animals while enhancing conservation and pioneering science based rehabilitation, conflict mitigation and wildlife health.

## Enforcement and Law

Reduce wildlife crime by strengthening frontline field staff, practical trade control, championing legal defense using existing laws and by providing alternatives to wildlife products and livelihoods.

## Securing Habitats

Secure critical habitats outside the traditional PA system, especially linkages, wetlands, grasslands, BCPP (Biodiversity Conservation Prioritisation Project), important bird areas and sacred groves, thereby increasing the effective protected area of India by 1%.

## Wild Aid

Provide short term focused aid both monetary and technical, to assist in emergencies and in emerging conservation issues, to provide rapid aid to animals in distress, to initiate pilot projects or innovative ideas to help conservation and to focus public attention on conservation emergencies.

## Awareness for Conservation

Create a positive and measurable change in people's perceptions to improve the conservation and welfare of wildlife and its habitat.

## Communities for Conservation

Reduce the dependence of local communities on wildlife and their habitats through alternative ecologically appropriate livelihoods or green livelihoods.

# Our Projects in 2013-2014

1. Valmiki Tiger Conservation Project
2. Rajaji - Corbett Conservation Project
3. Western Himalayas Mountain Ungulate Conservation Project
4. UP Carnivore Conservation Project
5. Kaziranga Conservation Project
6. Greater Manas Conservation Project
7. Karbi Anglong Conservation Project
8. Garo Green Spine Conservation Project
9. Dibang Valley Conservation Project
10. Sathyamangalam Tiger Conservation Project
11. West Coast Marine Conservation Project
12. Central India Tiger Conservation Project
13. Central India Wild Buffalo Conservation Project
14. Pakke Conservation Project
15. Nagaland Management Plan
16. Integrated Sloth Bear Conservation and Welfare Project
17. National Elephant Corridor Project
18. National Train Hit Mitigation
19. Wild Aid
20. Animal Action Education
21. Haathi Mere Saathi
22. International Policies and Treaties Cell
23. Wildlife Trade Control Project
24. Geographical Information System Cell
25. Wildlife Welfare and Emergency Relief



Amur falcons in Nagaland. Photo - Ishaan Raghunandan

# 15 Years, 15 Milestones

In its 16th year now, WTI has expanded reach through long term projects that cover two third of India's biogeographic units and sub-units (14 out of 21). WTI's major projects focus on key taxa, thus channelizing conservation strategies to achieve maximum impact. This is done through a combination of two or more of seven key strategies defined by WTI as its Big Ideas.

Listed here are 15 key milestones in 15 years of WTI's quest to its vision of a secure natural heritage of India:

1. **Securing Elephant Corridors:** WTI set about securing elephant corridors in India and has succeeded in securing the Kollegal corridor in Karnataka, Wayanad corridor in Kerala and Siju-Rewak in Meghalaya.
2. **IFAW-WTI Rescue Centre-CWRC:** In Assam through its rescue centre CWRC in 13 years, handled over 3500 cases and released more than 50 % – underlining the importance of welfare in conservation.
3. **Enforcement & Litigation:** In over 15 years, WTI has been training and equipping 12,000 and more frontline staff in more than 100 PAs and facilitated more than 100 seizures of illegally traded wildlife.
4. **Whale Shark Conservation:** Through lobbying, WTI got the whale shark to become the first fish to be protected under WPA in India and Appendix II of CITES; conducted a unique campaign that stopped the killing of this fish and converted it to an icon that is now protected.
5. **Markhor Conservation:** Conducted the first comprehensive survey of Markhor (*Capra falconeri*) and used it to trigger declaration of Kazinag NP and expansion of Hirpura WLS in J&K and Tatakuti WLS in Jammu.
6. **Involving Communities:** Got communities to set aside land for creation of 12 jointly managed village reserves in Meghalaya for hoolock gibbon and Asian elephant.

7. **Tiger Habitat Recovery:** In Valmiki Tiger Reserve, worked on tiger habitat recovery, established tiger presence breeding and presence of so far unreported species, such as crab eating mongoose and hoary bellied squirrel through camera traps.

8. **Bringing Back Manas:** Brought key species back to Manas through restocking displaced rehabilitated animals (rhino, clouded leopard, bear, elephant) and helped Indian government in getting UNESCO 'in-danger' tag removed by UNESCO in 2011.

9. **Wild Buffalo Genetics:** Declared that only seven left in Udanti WLS, Chhattisgarh, where it enjoys the status of the state animal. Solved long time pending mystery on their genetic integrity and first initiated the first captive breeding of a bovine in India.

10. **Train-hit Mitigation:** Only one elephant died due to train-hit in Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand for the past 11 years as opposed to 11 in previous 14 years.

11. **Saving the Tibetan Antelope:** Established alternative livelihood project for women spinners/weavers after shahtoosh was banned in J&K, helped artisans form the Kashmir Handmade Pashmina Promotion Trust.

12. **Rapid Action Projects:** Fibreglass hornbill beaks to Nyishi tribes of Arunachal Pradesh, Safety-nets below nests of endangered adjutant storks, stopping mass hunting of Amur falcons in Nagaland.

13. **Fighting Ivory Trade:** IFAW and WTI have consistently supported the Indian government in its fight against re-opening ivory trade. From 1998 to 2007, no ivory was sanctioned to be traded internationally.

14. **Global Tiger Forum:** WTI and IFAW have also revived the GTF, the only inter-governmental forum on tigers.

15. **Increasing PA Network:** Though advocacy and/or research, WTI has contributed to the creation of a number of PAs – (i) Maharashtra: Mansingh Deo, New Nagzira, Nawegaon Wildlife Sanctuaries (ii) J & K: Tatakuti WLS, Kazinag National Park and Pampore wetlands and (iii) Tiger reserves: Nagzira Nawegaon, Udanti-Sitanadi and Sathyamangalam.

# Rapid Response to Wildlife Emergencies

## Rapid Action Projects



Villagers carrying grains provided by WTI under the Grain for Grain Scheme. Photo-WTI

Village Council Members (VCMs) of Pangti, Asha and Sungro signed a tri-partite Memorandum of Understanding with WTI and Natural Nagas, a Wokha based NGO, to assist the Nagaland Forest Department in stopping the wide-scale hunting of Amur falcons which was brought to light last year. Among the significant breakthroughs, three villages pledged to save the migratory raptor in Doyang Reservoir- its largest roosting site in the country by passing a resolution prohibiting shooting and trapping of Amur falcons within the village jurisdiction. A fine of Rs 5000/ was imposed for offenders. Considering that the killing of thousands of these birds takes place for consumption and sale in local markets, the project aimed to provide poultry to the villagers of Pangti, Sungro and Aasha villages in Wokha district as alternative source of meat. As a result of these initiatives no falcon was killed this year, which is a remarkable turnaround from the large numbers of falcons that were killed last year.

The Government of Nagaland felicitated WTI with a Meritorious Service Certificate for the conservation efforts to protect Amur falcons in 2013.

A 'Grain for Grain' initiative was also organised in September in Pangti, Nagaland to help out the villagers who suffered loss of paddy due to human-elephant conflict. More than 4950 kg of grain was provided to the 99 families affected by human-elephant conflict.

With an increase in the frequency of snake rescue calls due to flooding in the post Phailin phase, IFAW-WTI initiated an RAP to rescue and release snakes from Kendrapara, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar district of Odisha with the help of a local snake rescuer.



IFAW-WTI vet. attending to an injured bird during the Phailin Cyclone. Photo-WTI

A total of 18 rescue and release cases were handled which included spectacled cobras, monocolled cobras, Russels vipers, common kraits, among others.

Meanwhile, tribals surrendered 10 sets of bows and arrows to the Forest Department of Dudiani Range in Simlipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha as part of an ongoing awareness drive to stop poaching in the reserve and areas around it.

In August, the Wildlife Department of Jammu & Kashmir officially took over 1400 Kanals of wetland (around 175 acres) from the state's Revenue Department at a small ceremony at Town Hall, Pampore. This brings four wetlands - Fushkooori, Mainbugh, Krunchoo and Chatlam - under the purview of the J&K Wildlife Protection Act.

The cameras given to fishermen in Gujarat under the self documentation scheme have resulted in 101 whale shark rescues this year!

In a separate RAP, water holes in Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary were filled with water and camera traps were placed. These camera traps recorded elephants and sambar deer presence around these waterholes which were filled to prevent animals from straying out of the protected areas during dry summer period.

## Emergency Relief Network

This year saw two major natural disasters strike India - Cyclone Phailin and flash floods in Uttarakhand. Phailin struck the south eastern states of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh while the northern state of Uttarakhand received close to 375% excess rainfall than the average thus setting off a series of landslides following a deluge that killed thousands.



Boats for Kaziranga NP personnel. Photo - WTI

To address the Uttarakhand emergency, WTI in collaboration with Venu Menon Animal Allies Foundation (VMAAF), sent a three member team (one veterinarian and two biologists) to an Animal Welfare Camp in Phata a centrally located village in Rudraprayag. The team was there to assess the situation and cover as many flood affected villages and treat animals that owners had herded back to their homes. The team set up a base camp with veterinary and husbandry supplies at Phata village of Rudraprayag district. During their stay from May 27 to June 2, the team covered flood affected areas like Guptkashi, Sonprayag, Sitapur, Rampur and Gaurikund.

Financial and veterinary support was provided to local NGOs in Gujarat and Rajasthan for treating birds injured by glass-coated kite-strings during the kite flying festival. Around 400 birds were treated in January in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

**EDDG:** In July, 35 boats were handed over to the Kaziranga Forest Department to assist them in patrolling during monsoon season.

**Special Grant:** The Special Project in Bhutan saw the handover of an impressive Mitsubishi All-terrain vehicle to the Department of Forests and Park Services by IFAW-WTI in June to assist in rescue, anti-poaching activities in Bhutan.



## Securing Spaces for Wildlife

In a big step towards the securement of the Kalapahar-Doigurung Corridor in Assam, a foundation stone was laid at the relocation site for the 19 families of the Ram Terang (corridor) village by the 40th King of Karbi Anglong. On the same day, an ex-gratia payment was also made by the King to the father of a victim who was killed by an elephant last year.

Taking a step further, 19 families of the corridor dependent Ram Terang village in Karbi Anglong were allowed to cultivate paddy on 50 bighas of land at the relocation site.

In May, the Rajaji-Corbett Conservation Project saw the first installment of the compensation being released to the villagers of Khandgaon III as part of their relocation package. In August, the Uttarakhand government issued an order to allot land to the remaining six families of Khandgaon III at Lalpani. These families were not considered for the compensation earlier.

In a major breakthrough for the Rajaji-Corbett Conservation Project, the Hon'ble CM of Uttarakhand approved WTI's proposal for rehabilitating 50 families from the Sunderkhal area of the Corbett National Park. Four cases of human-elephant conflicts were recorded from the Sunderkhal village in April wherein tuskers destroyed harvested wheat crop.

Under the National Elephant Corridor Project, a new corridor was identified in Odisha and the ground-truthing of the same started in May.

Under the Marine Conservation Project in Gujarat, an artificial reef deployment and coral rescue programme was organised at Laku and Mithapur in April in partnership with the Forest Department, Navy, Coast Guard, Zoological Survey of India and Gujarat Ecological Commission. About 150 members were involved in the programme wherein 23 artificial reefs were deployed and rescued corals were placed on these substrata with the help of divers from Coast Guard, Navy, FD, ZSI and WTI. Coral spawning was observed on Mithapur reef in February. In January 2014, it was observed that all rescued corals were attached firmly and had started growing on the artificial reef within a span of eight months.



For the first time since the inception of the Whale Shark Campaign in 2004, whale shark pup sightings were reported to the WTI marine team in Gujarat. Three pups were spotted in May, all off the coast of Sutrapada.

On January 3, 2014, a Self Documentation Scheme (SDS) camera recipient informed the WTI research team that a whale shark was caught in his fishing net approximately 18 km from the Sutrapada coast. The research team reached the spot accompanied by the Forest Department and found a healthy male that measured 36 feet in length.

A tag was successfully placed on the fish, but at the time of release the tag got entangled in the net and came off the fish. A total of 101 whale shark rescues happened under the self documentation scheme this year.

Camera traps placed to record evidence of breeding tigers in Valmiki Tiger Reserve in north Bihar captured a leopard and a sloth bear with two cubs. A crab eating mongoose, which had not been reported earlier from the reserve, was also photographed.

An adult female eastern swamp deer was successfully radio-collared at Mihimukh Field in Kaziranga National Park on March 3, 2014. A post-fawning three-day population estimation exercise was carried out in Kaziranga National Park from May 2-4, 2013, to record the population size and structure of eastern swamp deer in the park.

Kaziranga holds the only population of this sub-species (few stray species are found in Manas National Park) and to save them from going extinct, these activities are a part of the ambitious project on capturing one group from this population and relocating it to Manas National Park.

In January, the Government of Bihar sanctioned a project on restocking captive bred gharial in Gandak River in Valmiki landscape. The project's main aim is releasing and monitoring the gharials that have been bred in captivity in Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna. In February, a survey was undertaken of River Gandak to identify sites for gharial release, in which a stretch of 50 km (from Valmikinagar Barrage to road-rail bridge at Paniahwa) was studied. During the survey four gharials and 10 gangetic dolphins were also sighted.



Top-Bottom: A crab eating mongoose captured on a camera trap  
Whale shark being rescued from a fishing net in Gujarat  
Radio collaring of a female Eastern swamp deer  
Photos-WTI

## Enforcing Wildlife Law

In April, the enforcement team helped Maharashtra authorities bust a gang of poachers, who had been hunting wildlife using snares, traps and guns. A leopard skin and bones among other items were recovered from them.

In May, the Maharashtra Forest Department, with assistance from WTI, arrested eleven people over the course of a lengthy operation which ended in the seizure of 19 live animals, including two star tortoises, two shikras, one rock python, three red sand boas, eight saw scaled vipers, two banded racers and one vine snake.

Assisted by WTI, two people were arrested on July 29 with a leopard skin and deer antlers in an operation by the Karnataka Forest CID Cell, Karnataka Forest Team, Special Tiger Protection Force and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau. In yet another seizure, three leopard skins, one deer skin and a few antlers were seized in Kerala with assistance from WTI. One of the suspects is allegedly a long time trader who was wanted by the State Forest Department and the Narcotics Department.

In a decision which had the litigation team cheering, a case filed against the Jammu and Kashmir government's decision to open a sheep breeding centre in Dachigam National Park was won in April.

The litigation team had two separate convictions to boast of from Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka in August. A total of eight poachers were fined and sentenced to imprisonment. Anti-snare walks resulted in removal of 200 snares from Bandipur Tiger Reserve.



Snares removed from Bandipur TR. Photo-WTI



## Training, Equipping & Protecting the Protectors

Crime prevention training for the frontline staff in Pench TR. Photo-WTI

A total of 1,754 forest staff were trained and equipped to combat wildlife crime and make patrolling more effective.

A first Training-of-Trainers Workshop was organised for 40 participants under the Van Rakshak Project (VRP) in Pench National Park from April 18 to 22. The intent was to create a pool of trainers based in different linguistic regions of the country. The trainers would be deployed during VRP training in the respective areas.

VRP training was also given to 125 frontline forest staff of Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh in August and kits were distributed to all trainees.

Three batches of training were conducted in the month of January 2014 for Uttar Pradesh Forest Staff. The first batch of training included senior forest officers wherein 34 staff personnel were trained and equipped. The second and third batches included frontline forest staff of various PAs of UP, as well as, 77 staff who were trained and equipped by WTI. The second phase of training had 21 senior forest officers participating. Subsequent batches of 115 frontline staff underwent the training module.

Arunachal Pradesh has now been added to the Supplementary Accidental Insurance Scheme for the frontline forest staff and 104 members have been added to the PASS Database. Twenty three states are part of this insurance scheme which covers 19,500 forest staff.

Eight insurance claims of Rs 1 lakh each and two ex gratia support of Rs 25000 each were disbursed during this year. Of these, two were killed by poachers, two died due to drowning and six lost their life to animal attack. The insurance scheme helps boost the morale of frontline forest staff and ensures that the family gets financial help when they need it the most. A cheque of Rs. 50,000 was handed over to the family members of late Pakhiram Basumatary for his services in protecting the World Heritage Site as a part of MMES since 2003. He was killed by a wild elephant while on duty in the Kalapani area of Bhuyanpara Range.



## Saving Elephants from Train Hits

WTI signage near a railway track in Rajaji NP. Photo-WTI

WTI has been working in key sectors that have seen a large number of elephants getting killed by trains. During April-May 2013, 219 elephants were driven away from the tracks by the joint patrolling staff in 49 attempts in Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand.

WTI conducted workshops with loco pilots and patrolling teams and served caution orders, cleared vegetation on tracks and reduced the speed of trains in some stretches. This has been very successful in Uttarakhand and no elephants were killed in a decade of WTI's work there.

Joint patrolling was carried out on the tracks for a stretch of 18 kms in three different ranges - Haridwar, Motichur and Kansrau - of Rajaji National Park. In September, 22 elephants in Rajaji were chased away from the tracks in seven different attempts by the patrolling team. In October, 25 elephants were chased away from the tracks in 22 attempts by the patrolling team in Rajaji NP.

In Karbi Anglong, a loco pilot and his assistant helped avert a possibly disastrous train accident and elephant deaths at a stretch between Pathorkhola and Lamasakhan on April 2. The alert unit saw a herd of elephants crossing the tracks and stopped the train for 10 minutes and let them pass. On the evening of June 11, three elephants were about to cross the track when a train was fast approaching the section, but the patrolling team managed to divert the elephants back into the forest in the nick of time. Karbi Anglong, unfortunately, saw the deaths of two elephants in July- one poached and the other a victim of train hit.

On May 10, a MoU was signed with the Odisha government on mitigating train hits in the state.

A project was undertaken to test the functionality of an Animal Detection System to help prevent elephant mortality due to train hits. The test site chosen for the demonstration between Walayar and Kanjikode stations in Kerala and the test was successfully carried out in a closed environment. The device once installed will be able to detect animal presence, especially elephants, on the tracks and alert the railway officials so that they can take appropriate action.



# Rehabilitating Rescued Wildlife

Sighting of rehabilitated and released elephant calves in Manas, especially one that completed five years in the wild, was a cause for celebration. There were more reasons to celebrate with three of the released rhinos gave birth in the wild in Manas.

A binturong, also known as a Bearcat, was admitted to the IFAW-WTI run Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC). This is for the first time in the CWRC's decade-long history that this species was rescued.

CWRC bid adieu to a female rhino calf in June after she was shifted to a boma in Manas. She joined another orphan male calf in an attempt to increase the rehabilitation chances of the former. Three sub-adult rhinos were also shifted from CWRC to Manas in early 2014 for acclimatisation. On January 28, 2014, two sub-adult rhinos were shifted to Manas from CWRC.

Both were less than a month old when they were rescued from Baruntika and Haldhibari areas of Kaziranga respectively. They were also hand-reared at CWRC and are now in Manas with another male rhino inside the rehab boma. One more rhino was translocated from CWRC to Manas on February 20, 2014. The four-year-old male rhino was less than a month old when he was found abandoned in Baghmari, Kaziranga National Park on September 10, 2009. He was subsequently shifted to CWRC for hand-raising.



(Above) Binturong being treated by CWRC vets; A hand raised rhino released in Manas NP. Photos-WTI



IFAW-WTI vet treating a hoolock gibbon. Photo-WTI

Unfortunately CWRC had bad news to report in October with the death of three elephant calves due to gastro infections.

In Arunachal Pradesh, three Asiatic black bear cubs were radio-collared and released in the Deopani forest area. Two more families of eastern hoolock gibbons, comprising three individuals each, were rescued from Dello and released the next day to their new site in Mehao WLS, 25 km from Roing. Post release monitoring of these families was conducted.



AAE activities at CMS Vatavaran Festival in Delhi. Photo-WTI

## Awareness for Conservation

Wildlife Week was celebrated in various projects areas across the country including Greater Manas Landscape, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. In Ramnagar (Corbett NP), the WTI team organised several awareness events for children such as a painting and essay competitions and screened the documentary *Elephants Never Forget* on Elephant Day.

An awareness programme was organised for the school children at Gurukul Academy School, Paliya, on the occasion of World Tiger Day in which the Deputy Director of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve was the chief guest. This programme was also attended by the Wildlife Warden, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, school teachers and media.

An environment and nature education camp was organised in January 2014, by the Gujarat Forest Department (Wildlife Circle, Junagadh) at Biodiversity and Nature Education Centre, Khadiya, where WTI was invited to educate students about whale sharks. Approximately, 250 students from five different schools and colleges attended along with the Junagadh forest division staff. The whale shark documentary, *The Homecoming*, was also screened.

Between January 20 and 24, IFAW-WTI Animal Action Education (AAE) documentaries were screened at the 9th India International Children's Film Festival in Hyderabad. On January 31, AAE team reached out to more than 1500 students of around 35 schools in Delhi. Partnering with the Sanctuary Asia's Kids for Tigers event hosted in Delhi's Salwan Public School, the event had Vivek Menon, Executive Director, WTI, as the chief guest.

On February 1, an AAE activity day was organised in New Delhi, partnering with the 7th CMS VATAVARAN - Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum held at the IGNCA Lawns from Jan 30 to Feb 03, 2014. Over 10,000 visitors, including 3000 children, participated in the festival. Painting competition, spot quiz and story-writing workshop by eminent children's author and artist Bulbul Sharma were also held.

Three NGOs - Mahiru Foundation (Gujarat), Seven Look Organisation (Assam) and Society of Ecological Research and Sustainable Future (Punjab) have tied up with WTI to carry out AAE in their respective localities.

An agreement has also been signed with the Bharatiya Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment Education and Research to translate AAE packs into Marathi and implement AAE in Maharashtra.

In September, 28 school teachers from three districts of Bodoland Territorial Council were provided orientation on AAE to conduct activities in their respective schools.

Wildlife Week was organised by Assam Forest Department around Manas in collaboration with WTI turned into a mass awareness programme. A total of 9,800 school students took part in AAE activities this year.

With the aim of spreading awareness on the plight of Asian elephants and the need for their conservation, IFAW-WTI in collaboration with the Assam Forest Department and Bodoland Territorial Council organised a three-day long 'Asian Elephant Football Tournament' in Kochugaon of Bodoland from February 11 to 13, 2014.



Football for awareness in Bodoland. Photo-WTI



A woman using an improved cookstove in Assam. Photo-WTI

The tournament aimed to strengthen the links between the Forest Department, local NGOs and media along with other like-minded organisations and individuals to save the Asian elephants of Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve of BTC. Twelve teams from the Greater Manas area took part in the tournament. A signature campaign for securing the wildlife in the region along with cultural activities was also carried out.

WTI also supported the annual cricket tournament 'Kaziranga Premier League' held at Kohora by the Kaziranga Jeep Safari Association. WTI provided the tournament trophy and other prizes and took the opportunity to spread awareness about eastern swamp deer and other wildlife of Kaziranga through colourful banners and signboards.

Since the Sloth Bear campaign in Sambalpur, Odisha, is over, a four wheeler was bought for the street play team with the support of WTI-WSPA so that they can continue with their street play performances in future. The vehicle will also be used for forest patrolling purpose as well.

Under the Amur Falcon Conservation campaign, series of awareness meetings were held throughout the month of October, in the presence of various dignitaries including T Lotha, CWLW Nagaland, Lokeswara Rao Madiraju, PCCF Nagaland, Forest Department officials, Village Council Members and the local community. AAE activities were conducted in around 40 schools in Bhandari, Wokha town.

## Working with Communities

The total number of SHGs formed in the project villages around Valmiki Tiger Reserve, Bihar reached 53 this year. A get-together of the SHGs was organised on May 30 at Naurangia village, in which 600 people participated. A film on women empowerment was also screened during the programme.

Under the Central India Tiger Conservation Project, the first-ever Biodiversity Monitoring Committee (BMC) in the state was created in Murdholi Gram Panchayat. The BMC will undertake preparation of People's Biodiversity Register of the region. Impressed by the initiative, creation of similar BMC at the district level was suggested by the Forest Department, and likewise initiated. A workshop on the functioning of the Biodiversity Monitoring Committee (BMC) and documentation of PBR was held on August 22 at Sondlagondi.

A total of 524 local fruit and shelter trees were planted in Priority I villages (15) and schools in July. A reward for the best surviving plant after one year was given to the students in each village/school along with reward for the best maintained plantation to the school.

A Self-Help Group comprising 12 members who had taken training earlier on Processing and Manufacturing of Mahua products was formed in village Sondlagondi and named Nagzira Swayam Sahayta Bachat Gat. The group makes products from Mahua for sale along with other wild and natural products available in the surroundings. The SHG was provided a mixer-grinder, sealing machine, counter weigh machine and packaging materials for their



Solar lamps distributed in Valmiki TR. Photo-WTI



Women making mahua pickle in Maharashtra. Photo-WTI

livelihood venture. It was registered in February with the Health and Food Department Bhandara, to obtain food license to manufacture pickles and sharbat. The license has been granted for three years. The district level SHG Fair "Palaash" in Gondia organised annually by the District Rural Development Authority and the Rural Development Ministry gave a platform to the SHG to showcase their products including mahua pickle, organic turmeric, organic ginger, vermi-compost, medicinal plants, vegetables, etc.

A new community cook stove was installed at a school in Jhambalapani. Previously the mid-day meals were being cooked on the cook stove built in the community hall of the village.

A recognition reward programme to honor villagers from Sondlagondi and Jhambalapani was held on February 26, 2014 at Jhambalapani school premises in which 21 villagers were rewarded for their performance in improved cook stoves, biogas, vermi compost, agriculture, trainings and NTFP products.

The Greater Manas Conservation Project in Manas saw the Field Director agreeing to include alternate green livelihood options such as the improved cook-stoves in the Annual Plan of Operation. With 182 households using these improved cook stoves, at least 1000 trees may be saved annually, as fuel consumption is reduced by about 1 kg per person per day. A Souvenir Shop titled 'Somaina Mithinga' (Beauty of Nature) - run by the beneficiaries of IFAW-WTI's alternate livelihood weaving initiative- was also inaugurated by the Field Director, Manas Tiger Reserve. The idea of the sale booth is to promote the traditional green livelihood products made by the women, at the tourist hot spot in the World Heritage Site. The present sale booth has been set up near the main entrance to Manas NP, Bansbari.

The Sloth Bear Conservation and Welfare Project has been seeing all the ex-kalandars doing well with steady incomes. Seven children were provided support for school uniforms and school kits by WTI-WSPA. All of the children have been admitted to school for the academic year 2013-2014.



Veterinary medicines for livestock being distributed to women in Valmiki TR. Photo-WTI



Prof. Raman Sukumar's book launch in New Delhi. Photo-WTI GTF and Tiger Watch team with staff of Panna TR. Photo-WTI

# Balance Sheet

## Events and Collaborations

The last day of April saw the launch of Prof. Raman Sukumar's book – The Story of Asia's Elephants in the India International Centre. The book by the WTI trustee and elephant expert was unveiled by Dr Kapila Vatsyayan, eminent scholar and Padma Vibhushan awardee.

A team of Russian delegates were taken to Panna TR and interacted with tiger conservation experts in India, as a part of a ten-day long Tiger Watch Programme, jointly organised by the International Fund for Animal Welfare-Wildlife Trust of India (IFAW-WTI) in collaboration with the Global Tiger Forum (GTF), ended with a lot of positive hope for well being of wild tiger in both Russia and India. This year's programme was conducted from February 24-March, 2014. To have a firsthand field exposure in tiger conservation in India and to facilitate exchange of views and information at the ground level, the Russian team was taken to Panna Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh, India. Various techniques used in India to monitor tiger, its prey and habitat were shared with Russian delegates.

In some regrettable news, the Government of India postponed the International Elephant Congress and Ministerial Meet which was scheduled for November 2013.

A national conference in Ooty to celebrate 25 years of the Nilgiri Biodiversity Reserve was given support through the EDDG.

The highlight of this year was the much-awaited Triennial Planning Meeting, held at Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh. The purpose of the meeting was to bring the WTI family from the field and Headquarters together, for sharing knowledge, ideas and bonding. Presentations on their projects were also given by the respective teams which helped the Board and the staff get an insight into various projects.

WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA			
BALANCE SHEET AS ON MARCH 31, 2014			
AS AT 31.3.13 AMOUNT (Rs.)	FUNDS & LIABILITIES	AS AT 31.3.14 AMOUNT (Rs.)	AS AT 31.3.14 AMOUNT (Rs.)
9,09,541.80	<b>CORPUS FUND</b>	9,09,541.80	6,85,92,469.88
9,09,541.80	Opening Balance		<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>
5,33,72,067.51	<b>CAPITAL FUND</b>		<b>CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS &amp; ADVANCES</b>
12,26,863.50	Opening Balance	6,85,92,469.88	<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>
1,75,40,730.00	Add: Addition during the year	30,18,379.58	Cash in hand
7,21,39,661.01	Add: Transfer from General Reserve	6,01,661.80	Closing Stock (Social Enterprise)
6,24,566.00	Less: Sale/ Loss during the year	7,22,12,511.26	Bank balance in designated account
29,22,626.13	Less: Depreciation	35,284.41	Fixed Deposits
6,85,92,469.88	<b>GENERAL RESERVE (Schedule "B")</b>	29,24,178.57	Accrued Interest
3,72,02,574.25	Opening Balance	5,00,02,204.08	
1,34,69,912.83	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,03,76,788.00	<b>LOANS &amp; ADVANCES</b>
1,68,70,447.00	Add: Net Addition as per Schedule D	6,01,661.80	Security Deposits
1,75,40,730.00	Less: Amount Transferred to Capital Fund	24,24,714.67	Advances
5,00,02,204.08	Less: Excess of Exp. Over Income	5,73,52,615.61	
8,13,01,775.34	<b>UNUTILISED FUNDS (Schedule "B")</b>	7,41,35,334.88	
	Project Fund	-6,56,069.11	
	Social Enterprise Fund	12,46,561.00	
13,51,297.00	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES &amp; PROVISIONS</b>	17,79,182.28	
	Sundry Amounts Payable	0.00	
20,21,57,288.10	<b>TOTAL</b>	20,21,57,288.10	<b>TOTAL</b>
			20,22,41,042.48

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts - Schedule "F" In terms of our report of even date attached

FOR KOSHI & GEORGE  
Chartered Accountants  
(Reg. No. 003629N)  
New Delhi  
GEORGE KOSHI  
Partner  
M.No. 82951

FOR WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA

(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)  
(TREASURER)

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# Our Mission

To conserve wildlife and its habitat and to work for the welfare of individual wild animals in partnership with communities and governments.



