

## Project Update: June 2020

A brief discussion was organised at the main Bazaar Machiara National Park with shopkeepers and local community. The purpose of this discussion was to tell people about the Asiatic black bear conservation, purpose and achievements of the project and camera stealing issues as five cameras were stolen during last year. Through this discussion, I found that people were worrying that cameras might be picturing their activities in the forest area especially picturing their women who collect fodder for their livestock. Though I could not get the cameras back, however, I assured them that their personal information will be kept secure. Additionally, local people said that crop raiding and livestock killing by black bear is very common in their villages but there is not any compensation scheme by any governmental or non-governmental organisation.

While interpreting the camera traps data I also got a picture of black bear in April 2020 that indicated the hibernation period of black bear lasts to the end of April.





