

Key Activities

2024-25

Species Research and Conservation

Asian elephant research & conservation

- Conducted landscape-level studies on elephant movement, habitat use and connectivity across Northeast India.
- Assessed elephant distribution and population density in Balpakram National Park in Meghalaya using indirect dung count methods.
- Identified and mapped critical elephant corridors and evaluated their functionality.
- Mapped inter-state habitat connectivity across Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland.
- Conducted elephant occupancy surveys across five proposed elephant reserves in Assam.
- Undertook radio-collaring of elephants (first-ever tusker in Assam and one adult female) to study movement, behaviour, and habitat use.



Greater Adjutant Stork Conservation

- Rescued and rehabilitated a juvenile Greater Adjutant Stork.
- Installed protective nets under nesting trees to improve breeding success.
- Discovered a new nesting colony at Kulahati, Kamrup.



River dolphin conservation

- Contributed to the All-India River Dolphin Survey (2021–2023) under Project Dolphin.
- Supported documentation of 635 Ganges River Dolphins in Assam.



Reptile & Amphibian (Herpetofauna) Conservation

- Conducted field surveys in Meghalaya (Nongkhylllem, Siju, Nokrek, Tura).
- Engaged local volunteers for venomous snake monitoring.
- Delivered snake handling and venom collection training in Mizoram University.
- Monitored Assam roofed turtle nesting sites in Kaziranga National Park.



Wildlife Crime Monitoring & Enforcement Support

- Analyzed 150+ wildlife crime cases (rhinos, tigers, pangolins, exotic species).
- Identified and geo-referenced illegal wildlife trade hotspots (Indo–Bhutan border & central Assam routes).
- Surveyed pet shops in Guwahati dealing in exotic/CITES-listed species.
- Provided intelligence support to enforcement agencies, leading to major wildlife busts.
- Supported 335 patrols covering 12,500+ km for monitoring critical landscapes.



Primate Research & Conservation

- Conducted population surveys across multiple protected areas (Hollongapar, Namdapha, Garbhanga, Dibru-Saikhowa).
- Trained 188 forest staff in primate conservation and field techniques.
- Conducted specialized training at Namdapha for frontline staff.
- Developed Species Distribution Model (MaxEnt) to predict suitable habitats.



Rhino Research & Conservation

- Studied movement patterns of stray rhinos across 15 districts of Assam.
- Documented rhino presence across 44.1% of Assam's geographical area.
- Assessed increasing incidents of human-wildlife conflict around Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Conducted socio-economic and perception studies (with TISS Guwahati).
- Surveyed 35 Brahmaputra river islands for wildlife movement.
- Implemented Rhino UNIQUE identification programme (80% population identified).
- Assessed habitat suitability for rhino reintroduction in Arunachal Pradesh.



Wildlife Monitoring

- Conducted camera trapping surveys across multiple landscapes (208 sq. km + additional areas).
- Undertook trail-based sign surveys covering extensive forest areas.
- Carried out direct observation surveys in Kaziranga–Karbi Anglong landscape.

Threatened Species Recovery Programme

- Monitored Pygmy Hog population (12 litters, 52 hoglets recorded).
- Maintained 91 pygmy hogs in captivity.
- Conducted reintroduction (release of 9 pygmy hogs) in Manas National Park.
- Used radio telemetry (1,128 locations recorded) to track individuals.

- Conducted grassland habitat assessments (nests, droppings, burn impact).
- Surveyed Bengal Florican populations across multiple protected areas and riverine habitats.



Wildlife genetics & molecular research

- Conducted population genetic studies on Asian elephants and hoolock gibbons.
- Identified four major elephant genetic source populations in Northeast India.
- Undertook landscape genetics studies to assess gene flow and connectivity.
- Developed DNA markers for species, gender, and individual identification from fecal samples.
- Studied physiological stress in gibbons using hormone analysis.
- Contributed to phylogenetic research on macaques (Sinica group).
- Developed genetic tools for wildlife forensic investigations.



Habitat Research and Conservation

- Conducted baseline vegetation survey (51 hectares) and soil analysis documenting plant diversity.
- Identified major invasive alien *species* (*Chromolaena odorata*, *Mimosa invisa*, *Lantana camara*, *Mikania micrantha*).
- Carried out density surveys and targeted invasive species removal.
- Restored 20 hectares of degraded land in collaboration with JFMC.
- Observed natural regeneration of native grasses in restored sites.
- Planted 100,520 tree saplings and *Alpinia* rhizomes with nursery development.
- Established ~2 km fire lines to protect restoration areas.
- Implemented grassland restoration through invasive species control and tree management.
- Debarked 181 mature *Bombax ceiba* trees to prevent woodland expansion.
- Controlled *Chromolaena odorata* and *Mikania micrantha* through cutting, burning, and uprooting.
- Uprooted 8,427 encroaching tree saplings to maintain open grasslands.
- Conducted large-scale habitat management trials (TSRP) across Kuribeel and Rupahi.
- Applied girdling, pruning, topping, and grass planting techniques for restoration.
- Cleared *Chromolaena* across extensive grid areas (200+ hectares).

- Established long-term experimental plots with groundwater monitoring systems.
- Restored 15.3 hectares of habitat through removal of invasive and woody species.
- Uprooted 6,487+ trees and invasive plants affecting grassland ecosystems.
- Cleared 17.3 hectares of invasive species (*Mimosa diplotricha*, *Chromolaena odorata*).
- Restored 1.6 km² park area and 7 km of tourist roads through invasive removal.
- Conducted invasive species assessment study (*Chromolaena*, *Parthenium*).
- Uprooted 8,372 woody saplings to prevent grassland degradation.
- Targeted removal of key species (*Lagerstroemia*, *Tetrameles*, *Ziziphus*).
- Cleared 11 hectares of *Ipomoea carnea* infestation with community support.
- Removed and disposed large volumes of biomass to prevent reinvasion.
- Strengthened community participation and mechanised restoration efforts.
- Restored 9 hectares of degraded forest with monitoring of ecological parameters.
- Conducted baseline biodiversity assessments (birds, butterflies, plants).
- Completed vegetation survey (1 hectare) in Raimona NP.
- Established community-managed firewood plantation in fringe villages.
- Implemented participatory restoration of jhum fallows across 11.5 hectares.
- Engaged 22 farmers in habitat restoration and monitoring.
- Distributed 450 saplings and conducted plantation drives (Kadam and others).
- Protected nesting trees from felling in key habitats.
- Conducted nesting surveys and community awareness programmes.
- Formed women-led community group for habitat protection at Kulahati.
- Monitored stork populations at wetlands and garbage dump sites.
- Developed Species Management Plan for White-bellied Heron (habitat + perception studies).
- Conducted water quality mapping and wetland delineation (Doloni Beel) using satellite data.
- Generated land use/land cover change maps (2001–2024).
- Performed forest canopy density analysis (1988–2024) across NE states.
- Carried out elephant corridor modelling and conflict density mapping.
- Developed rhino habitat, density, and ranging maps.
- Undertook biomass sampling, vegetation trends, and land degradation assessments.
- Implemented wetland conservation project (Deepor Beel & Doloni Beel) for biodiversity and livelihoods.
- Promoted community-based climate resilience strategies in Udalguri.
- Conducted hydrological assessment of Kohora River (55% decline in discharge).
- Performed water quality monitoring (pH, DO, nutrients) over multiple years.

- Covered ~5,000 sq. km of forest landscapes through patrols and surveillance.
- Conducted 335 patrols (12,500+ km total coverage) on foot and by vehicle.
- Identified poaching risks, timber smuggling, and wildlife trafficking routes.
- Strengthened Community Surveillance and Monitoring Teams (CSMTs).
- Supported technical analysis of patrol data for better enforcement.
- Contributed to reduced poaching incidents in key habitats.
- Conducted landscape-level assessment in Dampa (Mizoram).
- Covered six buffer villages for conservation planning.
- Integrated big cat conservation with livelihood interventions.



Complementing Conservation Efforts

- Distributed 4,140 kg of winter crop seeds (potato, pumpkin, cauliflower, cabbage, etc.) to 128 beneficiaries.
- Distributed 230 kg ginger and 560 kg turmeric to about 50 farmers in eastern Manas landscape.
- Constructed three work sheds for self-help groups.
- Provided yarn bundles and mushroom inputs to promote alternative livelihoods.
- Created and maintained over 1 km of fire lines in Bhairabkunda Reserve Forest.
- Provided water pumps, water storage units, and field gear to JFMC members.
- Conducted tree plantation drives (Kadam, guava, neem, etc.) on World Environment Day.
- Felicitated 220 women participants of Hargila weaving workshops.
- Promoted environment education through art programmes for children.

- Encouraged sports engagement (e.g., girls' volleyball) linked with conservation awareness.
- Organised community clean-up drives to improve habitat conditions.
- Conducted weekly meditation and wellbeing sessions for community women.
- Implemented Green Diwali awareness campaigns promoting eco-friendly celebrations.
- Promoted Hargila motif-based conservation awareness through cultural products.
- Integrated conservation themes into cultural events (Bihu, Holi, Naam Kirtan).
- Organised Hargila-themed art and fancy-dress workshops for children.
- Conducted free eye check-up camp benefiting 200+ people (with medical partners).
- Contributed to management plan upgradation (2025–2034) for protected areas.
- Developed and delivered a 6-day GIS training module for Assam Forest School.
- Conducted Asian Waterbird Census (Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Jan 2025).
- Provided fuel support (₹50,000 each) to Tamulpur and Nunai Forest Ranges.
- Distributed 79 pairs of shoes to forest staff in Meghalaya.
- Supplied 4 bicycles for improved mobility of forest personnel.
- Distributed winter/rain gear (150 units) and 100 field kits in protected areas.
- Provided 40 solar torches to frontline staff.
- Conducted health check-up camps (eye and full-body) for forest staff.
- Extended financial/ex-gratia support to injured forest personnel.
- Conducted forensic DNA analysis for wildlife crime investigations (elephant, tiger, rhino, turtle cases).
- Assisted Forest Department and Police in species identification from seized wildlife parts.
- Supported parentage analysis and species confirmation in multiple cases.
- Provided 24 torchlights to Majuli Police to aid field enforcement.
- Distributed field kits (raincoats, shoes, caps, T-shirts) to Rapid Response Units (RRUs).
- Provided extensive gear support (torchlights, jackets, boots, etc.) to community groups (ECN, EPC, volunteers).
- Strengthened community-led monitoring and response to human–elephant conflict.
- Established and supported Community Surveillance and Monitoring Teams (CSMTs).
- Mobilized 40+ community members with GPS devices and field equipment.
- Conducted 120+ patrol hours in collaboration with Forest Department.
- Strengthened early detection of wildlife crime and site-level vigilance.
- Integrated K9 sniffer dog units in key protected areas (Kaziranga, Manas, Orang, Pobitora, Burhachapori).
- Enhanced enforcement efficiency and anti-poaching operations.



Education, Outreach & Communication

- Conducted 10-day Student Summer Learning Programme on water conservation, achieving 1,550 litres/day household water savings.
- Organised Natural Holi Colour workshop (50 participants) promoting eco-friendly cultural practices.
- Created wall murals on grassland biodiversity in 13 schools, 3 community halls, and 4 weaving centres.
- Conducted nature camps (Bormajra & Khamardwisa schools) engaging 55 students.
- Organised 10 inquiry-based learning camps for 216 students across Manas landscape.
- Hosted 2-day Conservation Education Consultation Workshop with 33 experts at MCOC.
- Conducted judiciary and multi-agency training programmes on wildlife laws and governance.
- Provided technical inputs on illegal wildlife trade monitoring (offline & online).
- Sensitised Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members in Orang.
- Organised targeted outreach for transport sector stakeholders to curb wildlife trafficking.
- Conducted community consultations on Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) engaging 181 participants.
- Celebrated International Tiger Day with awareness programmes.
- Organised Park Safari cum Awareness Programme for 57 SHG members.
- Trained local volunteers in HWC data collection and reporting.
- Empowered local women and nest tree owners, leading to significant increase in nesting sites.

- Conducted 35+ outreach programmes in western Assam districts.
- Conducted 84 outreach programmes in eastern Assam & Meghalaya reaching 4,167 people (including 2,331 students).
- Organised village-level meetings promoting community-based mitigation and tools like Haati App.
- Conducted site-based consultation at Bhairabkunda restoration area.
- Implemented 46 sessions covering elephant ecology, HEC causes, and coexistence strategies.
- Reached 1,963 individuals (men, women, and students).
- Conducted street theatre training (23 students) and performances reaching 800+ people.
- Organised 26 school outreach programmes across Baksa, Udalguri, and Tamulpur.
- Conducted interactive school programme in Dibrugarh engaging 63 students and 5 teachers.
- Broadcast multiple radio programmes on HEC and conservation via All India Radio reaching ~5,000 listeners.
- Conducted live call-in radio sessions and storytelling broadcasts from Majuli.
- Organised media workshop for 15 journalists in Dibrugarh.
- Held media roundtable (ClimateRISE Alliance) with 20+ media representatives.
- Celebrated major events: Earth Day, World Environment Day, World Elephant Day, Wetlands Day, Wildlife Week, etc.
- Conducted restoration drives, plantation, rallies, and awareness campaigns.
- Organised sports-based outreach (football matches, Elephant Football Cup).
- Celebrated community festivals (Children's Day, Bhugali Utsav, Hasti Puja) with conservation themes.
- Conducted 10 first-aid training sessions (515 participants) in eastern Assam & Garo Hills.
- Conducted 10 additional trainings in Baksa, Tamulpur, and Udalguri (with DDMA).
- Organised in-house training and exposure visits (Karnataka, universities, research institutes).
- Conducted data management and environmental education trainings.
- Trained Village Defence Party members (126 participants).
- Conducted HEC mitigation and elephant behaviour training for community groups.
- Organised exposure visits (Jaldapara, Kurseong, Kaziranga–Karbi Anglong).
- Conducted Village Fencing Committee trainings (124 participants).
- Conducted 3 ECN training and 5 strengthening programmes.
- Formed new Elephant Conservation Networks (ECNs):
 - Kumarikata Anchalik ECN (22 members)
 - Bongurum ECN (35 members from 13 villages)
- Translated HEC mitigation materials into Bodo language.

- Developed booklets, leaflets, rulers, and audio-visual materials.
- Produced documentary films (e.g., “Harvesting Hopes – The Biofence Initiative”).
- Created solar fencing handbook in local language.
- Conducted GPS and GIS training for researchers and forest staff (GTAD).
- Organised 9 herpetology orientation camps (HRCD).
- Co-organised World Meteorological Day event with academic institutions.
- Conducted Dolphin Yatra (boat-based outreach) engaging teachers, forest officials, and community leaders.
- Leveraged 56 SHGs and 10 EDCs for conservation communication in Manas landscape.



Livelihood and Social Entrepreneurship

- Promoted eco-friendly livelihood alternatives to reduce forest dependency.
- Focused on skill development, capacity building, and sustainable practices.
- Integrated community welfare with biodiversity conservation.
- Empowered 2,000+ women through the *Hargila Army* initiative.
- Supported 300+ women with handloom machines for home-based weaving.
- Conducted 5-day training programmes, training 220 women.
- Promoted Hargila-themed products (sadors, gamusas, bags, décor) linked to conservation.

- Enabled market access via platforms like *Stork Sister Store* and *Pashoopakshee*.
- Supported handloom diversification training (34 participants) in Manas landscape.
- Conducted baseline livelihood surveys (243 households, 8 villages).
- Distributed 4,140 kg of crop seeds (potato, pumpkin, cauliflower, lentils).
- Promoted resilient cropping systems to mitigate elephant crop raids.
- Trained 30 participants in nutritional home garden development.
- Encouraged organic farming practices in project areas.
- Established tailoring and cutting centres for SHGs.
- Promoted cloth bag making, stitching, and vocational training.
- Supported ecotourism (birdwatching, nature camps, local product sales).
- Generated local employment through restoration activities (e.g., Bhairabkunda RF).
- Conducted inception workshop on carbon markets & ARR methodology.
- Carried out Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and stakeholder consultations.
- Collected data on demographics, land use (LULC), vegetation, and livelihoods.
- Integrated FPIC principles and GIS-based site assessment.
- Conducted household socio-economic surveys (multiple villages).
- Implemented PRA with 177 participants to map HEC patterns and resources.
- Conducted willingness surveys (31 participants) for biofencing and composting.
- Organised 20 project evaluation meetings (861 participants) for feedback.
- Conducted 7 training programmes on alternative cropping systems.
- Distributed 12,055 saplings, 144 kg seeds, 1,450 kg rhizomes.
- Supported 163 individuals and one community group.
- Promoted beekeeping (56 bee boxes + training).
- Provided weaving training (22 women) and 85 kg yarn.
- Supported areca nut plantation (24 households).
- Distributed lemon saplings (14 households).
- Conducted mushroom cultivation training (25 participants).
- Provided carpentry tools (3 beneficiaries).
- Supported 7 small businesses (₹10,000 each).
- Conducted 6 weaving training sessions (102 participants).
- Distributed yarn to trained weavers and supported Eri silk production.
- Provided 1,950 kg potato seeds to 46 households.
- Supported 52 households with winter crops.
- Distributed 1,100 lemon saplings for biofencing.

- Supported small business setup for beneficiaries.
- Established vermicomposting unit (0.15-acre facility) in Dibrugarh.
- Trained local women in compost production and management.
- Conducted technical trainings (KVK & experts) for 30+ participants.
- Promoted lemon-based biofencing as HEC mitigation tool.
- Conducted stakeholder consultations and training workshops (100+ participants).
- Delivered hands-on lemon cultivation training (26 participants).
- Provided GPS and GIS training to ~600 participants (GTAD).
- Conducted environmental education and skill-based training programmes (EECBD).
- Trained local volunteers in HWC data collection and reporting.
- Promoted water-based livelihood resilience (WATCH Division).
- Documented traditional knowledge and socio-economic profiles (TRCD).
- Strengthened community-based surveillance (CSMTs) for conservation (LAD).
- Engaged 56 SHGs and 10 EDCs under TSRP for species recovery (e.g., pygmy hog).
- Supported community participation in primate conservation (PRCD).
- Promoted renewable energy and climate-resilient livelihood strategies (WATCH).



Legal & Policy Advocacy (LAD)

- Advocated for integration of wildlife crime into organised and financial crime frameworks.
- Promoted effective use of existing laws such as:
 - Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
 - Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002
 - Customs Act, 1962
- Participated in regional and national enforcement forums to influence policy dialogue.
- Organised judicial orientation workshops in Mizoram and Manipur.
- Engaged judges, prosecutors, forest officials, and police officers.
- Interaction with judiciary on:
 - Wildlife crime as organised and transnational crime
 - Use of financial and forensic evidence
 - Importance of deterrent sentencing
- Advocated for:
 - Fast-tracking wildlife crime cases
 - Establishment of special courts/designated sessions
- Conducted trainings for Forest Departments, Police, and CAPFs (including CISF).
- Delivered specialised sessions at Guwahati Airport for airline and security staff.
- Trained transport authorities (DTOs, highway units, unions) on legal liabilities.
- Organised border-focused sensitisation workshops with SSB (Indo–Bhutan border).
- Strengthened knowledge on:
 - Evidence handling and legal compliance
 - Prosecution-oriented investigation techniques
- Conducted review of pending wildlife crime cases in courts.
- Identified procedural bottlenecks (delays, weak charge framing, lack of financial investigation).
- Generated evidence-based inputs for SOP reforms and policy advocacy.
- Strengthened Community Surveillance and Monitoring Teams (CSMTs).
- Trained community members on:
 - Legal provisions and reporting protocols
 - Safe information sharing mechanisms
- Facilitated Letters of Agreement (LoAs) with Forest Departments.
- Advocated for insurance and safety mechanisms for community patrollers.
- Supported legal integration of K9 units into enforcement systems.
- Ensured alignment with evidentiary standards and SOPs.

- Enabled 60+ successful K9 tracking operations (including seizures and arrests).
- Advocated for formal recognition of canine evidence in wildlife crime cases.
- Conducted 2 transboundary workshops along Indo–Bhutan border.
- Facilitated collaboration between Indian agencies and Bhutanese stakeholders.
- Promoted:
 - Intelligence sharing mechanisms
 - Harmonised enforcement approaches
- Engaged Assam Rifles and other agencies along Indo–Myanmar border.

Strengthening Enforcement & Institutional Coordination

- Improved coordination between investigating agencies and prosecutors.
- Promoted integration of financial investigation in wildlife crime cases.
- Supported intelligence-led enforcement approaches.



Zonal Outreach & Social Responsibility Initiatives

- Aaranyak implemented Social Responsibility Initiatives across six zones in Assam for localized engagement.
- Activities targeted diverse stakeholders including students, farmers, researchers, and local communities.

- Flagship programme WeForNature facilitated eco talks, nature-based learning, photography workshops, and public engagement.
- Organised inter-school quiz competitions in collaboration with academic institutions and Assam Pollution Control Board in Guwahati.
- Conducted school-level awareness events in Kamrup district with participation of students and faculty.
- Large-scale participation in Kaziranga landscape:
 - Essay competition with 650 students from 12 schools near Laokhowa-Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Art competitions with 300 participants across 3 art schools
 - Awareness events in Burapahar and Nagaon Girls' College
- Western Assam: plantation drives, science exhibitions, essay/poster competitions.
- Eastern Assam: plantation drives in schools, health centres, and public places.
- World Bicycle Day: Cycle rally from Bokakhat to Kaziranga National Park promoting sustainability.
- Ride for Water Conservation: Awareness rally in Guwahati with 68 participants.
- International Vulture Awareness Day: School-based awareness and quiz programmes.
- World Rivers Day: Awareness sessions and drawing competitions with youth participation.
- Drug Abuse & Mental Health Awareness: Conducted with rehabilitation partners.
- Zoonotic disease awareness workshop under National One Health Programme under WeForNature programme.
- Foxtail Orchid conservation forum with experts and institutions under WeForNature programme..
- Wildlife photography workshop in collaboration with Nikon under WeForNature programme.
- Birdwatching programmes organised at Deepor Beel (54 species recorded, 29 participants)
- Birdwatching programmes organised at Khambrenge Beel during World Wetlands Day (46 species recorded)
- Nature walks:
 - At Garbhanga Reserve Forest
 - At Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden
- Activities included ecosystem learning, wildlife observation, and conservation ethics training.
- Organised Eco Talk featuring conservation scientist Simon Tollington.
- Encouraged interaction between experts, students, and conservation practitioners.
- Conducted community awareness programmes in flood-prone areas of Sivasagar.
- Sensitised communities on:
 - Wildlife rescue during floods
 - Compensation mechanisms
 - Habitat protection (e.g., egret nesting sites)

- Mobilised VDP members and volunteers to assist authorities in protecting wildlife during floods in Kaziranga National Park.
- Multiple awareness events across Assam including:
 - Sonari, Tinsukia, Chirang, Sivasagar, and Nazira
- Topics covered:
 - Biodiversity conservation
 - Vulture conservation
 - Bird conservation
- Participation ranged from students, teachers, youth, and professionals.
- Celebrated World Wetlands Day 2025 with:
 - Nature trails
 - Birdwatching
 - Drawing and quiz competitions
- Conducted migratory bird awareness programmes in schools with interactive sessions.
- Participation in Ekayan 2.0 at Dibrugarh University showcasing conservation work.
- Engagement at InnoVibe'25 by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Guwahati) promoting youth involvement in sustainability.
- Organised Members' Meet at Maibong Eco Resort near Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Facilitated experience sharing, networking, and strengthening conservation community bonds.



Human–Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (2024–25)

- Launch of HaatiApp (10 August 2024):
 - Officially launched by Nandita Gorlosa
 - Demonstrations conducted for forest officials, frontline staff, and local communities
 - Used for real-time monitoring and management of human–elephant conflict (HEC)
- Installed 30.1 km solar fencing in Jorhat, protecting 1,937 acres of paddy fields
- Installed 13 km solar fencing in Sivasagar, protecting 97.5 acres
- Installed 2 km + 2.1 km solar fencing in Tinsukia, protecting 130 bighas
- Reinstalled 13.1 km solar fencing in Majuli, Sadiya, and West Garo Hills
- Established 19.3 km biofencing (Assam lemon-based) in Sivasagar, Majuli, and Tinsukia
- Installed solar-powered electric fences in 4 schools in Udalguri for safety
- Installed:
 - 40 solar streetlights across Baksa, Tamulpur, and Udalguri
 - 18 watchtowers for monitoring elephant movement
 - 40 road signages to reduce accidental encounters
- Distributed:
 - 318 torchlights and 24 LED blinking lights for early warning
 - Field gear including raincoats, jackets, sweaters, and boots to community groups and frontline staff
- Trained and deployed:
 - 10 Rapid Response Unit (RRU) members
 - 20 Village Champions (VCs) across Eastern Assam and Meghalaya
- Coverage:
 - 20 villages, engaging 398 residents
- Key actions:
 - Reported 47 crop damage incidents (23.31 acres)
 - Reported 18 property damage incidents
 - Issued 123 early-warning alerts via WhatsApp
 - Conducted 114+ field visits for monitoring and advisory support
- Promoted:
 - Alternative cropping systems (less elephant-palatable crops)
 - Bio fencing using Assam lemon
 - Vermicomposting practices (8 units operational across 3 villages)
- Conducted trainings and sensitization programmes in Udalguri and other HEC-prone areas

- Provided fuel support to Tamulpur and Nunai Forest Ranges for rapid response
- Implemented in areas like Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary and Kaziranga National Park
- Benefited approximately 20,000 villagers
- Key interventions:
 - Equipped 110 VDP members with gear and torchlights
 - Supported 60 Anti-Depredation Squad volunteers
 - Installed 20 solar streetlights in vulnerable areas
 - Constructed 4 elevated monitoring platforms
- Conducted HWC mitigation meetings in villages near Manas National Park:
 - Engaged 56 farmers across 8 groups
- Installed experimental fencing types:
 - Solar fences
 - Green net fences
 - Sound fences
- Outcomes:
 - Harvested 2,534.63 kg of crops
 - Generated ₹1,13,058.90 income for farmers
- Distributed:
 - 56 bee boxes with bee colonies (beekeeping training included)
 - 12,055 saplings, 144 kg seeds, 1,450 kg rhizomes to 163 individuals and 1 community
- Promoted:
 - Sustainable agriculture practices
 - Income diversification to reduce dependency on conflict-prone farming



Vulture Conservation Initiatives

- Implemented a citizen science–based monitoring framework
- Documented:
 - Vulture population trends
 - Key nesting and roosting trees
- Strengthened data-driven conservation planning
- Promoted and managed community-owned vulture feeding grounds
- Ensured availability of safe and uncontaminated food sources
- Reduced risks from toxic carcasses and unsafe feeding practices
- Strengthened partnerships with:
 - Village institutions and grassroots organizations
 - Local communities and individuals
 - Government agencies (Forest Department and others)
- Fostered multi-stakeholder collaboration for vulture conservation
- Established Vulture Conservation Network (VCN) to:
 - Enable coordinated conservation action
 - Strengthen information sharing and stakeholder collaboration
- Launched:
 - Sagun Mitra initiative
 - Nest Guardianship programme
- Engaged community members in:
 - Protecting nesting and roosting habitats
 - Safeguarding vulture populations at local level
- Conducted targeted outreach programmes to promote:
 - Human–vulture coexistence
 - Awareness on vulture conservation importance and threats
- Organised cattle vaccination drives in collaboration with forest department and stakeholders
- Promoted vulture-safe livestock management practices
- Reduced risk of diclofenac poisoning, a major threat to vultures
- Acknowledged and appreciated local “nature guardians”

