



COURSES in CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP



COURSE TITLE	RESOURCE PERSONS	DATES
Human Wildlife Interactions: <i>Dealing with stakeholders and species of concern for proactive management of conflicts</i>	M Ananda Kumar, Ganesh Raghunathan	9–12 Jan (Mysore)
Fundraising for Research and Conservation	Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi	17–19 Jan
An Introduction to Conservation in Practice (in Malayalam)	Al Badush, Muhammed Nizar, Praveen J	26–28 Jan (Kerala)
Writing about Conservation	Shreya Dasgupta*	29–31 Jan
Project Planning and Management	Elrika D'souza	5–8 Feb
Working with Local Communities: an introduction to the PARTNERS principles for community-based conservation	Deepshikha Sharma and Munib Khanyari	4–5 March
Conservation Entrepreneurship	Arshiya Bose*	6–8 March
Monitoring and Evaluation of Conservation Programs	Abishek Harihar and Munib Khanyari	11–14 March

*External faculty



FUND-RAISING FOR RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

Raising, managing and reporting on funding is a critical aspect of practicing conservation. In this course, conducted in a workshop mode, we will facilitate knowledge and experience sharing with the aim of improving our fund-raising skills. The course will cover aspects such as identification of funding opportunities, strategies for fund-raising from different kinds of sources, writing funding proposals, Gantt charts, ethics of fund-raising, reporting requirements, and the value and cost of building relationships with granters.

DETAILS

Duration: 3 days

Dates: 17-19 January

Capacity: 10

Location: Bangalore

Resource Person(s)



Kulbhushansingh
Suryawanshi

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HUMAN WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS:

Dealing with stakeholders and species of concern for proactive management of conflicts

India, with its over a billion people, is also home to rich bio-biodiversity including endemic and endangered species across natural and modified habitats. People living in and around forested habitats face challenges of living with potentially dangerous wildlife, leading to intense human-wildlife conflicts. Human-wildlife conflict is a serious global conservation issue that threatens the well-being of people and animals besides undermining species conservation efforts. Be it leopards, elephants, or primates which have the phenomenal ability to adapt ecologically and modify behaviourally to the changed conditions, pose a challenge for conservation of wild species in altered habitats. Around 150 million people that depend on forest areas in India, many of which are wildlife habitats, for their livelihood, are compelled to bear the brunt of conflicts. On the other hand, retaliatory killing of wildlife by people may push wildlife to local extinction which is one of the biggest challenges for wildlife managers, academicians, conservationists, and local communities. The course discusses various human-wildlife interaction scenarios with case studies across habitats of Asian Elephant, snow leopard, and primate species. The course also encourages participants to share their views and experiences in an interactive mode to make informed decisions for wildlife conservation in their respective landscapes.

Resource Person(s)



M. Ananda
Kumar



Ganesh
Raghunathan

DETAILS

Duration: 4 days

Dates: 9–12 January

Capacity: 10–12

Location: Mysore

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AN INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION IN PRACTICE (IN MALAYALAM)

The Workshop is an intensive three-day program designed to empower individuals passionate about nature conservation, irrespective of their academic background, to become effective leaders in the field. This course covers a wide range of topics, including community engagement techniques, citizen science for biodiversity monitoring, communication skills with local communities, and conservation ethics. Participants will gain practical skills in engaging with communities, using citizen science tools for biodiversity monitoring, and communicating conservation messages effectively using different tools. They will also learn about the ethical considerations when working in remote landscapes and with vulnerable communities. At the end of this workshop, participants will be well-prepared to make meaningful contributions to conservation efforts while respecting local values and promoting ethical practices. Lastly, participants will have an opportunity to explore the surrounding biodiversity and learn basic biodiversity survey techniques.

Resource Person(s)



Al Badush



Muhammed Nizar



Praveen J

DETAILS

Duration: 3 days

Dates: 26-28 January

Capacity: 20

Location: KFRI (Kerala
Forest Research Institute)

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WRITING ABOUT CONSERVATION

The workshop is designed to help conservation practitioners and researchers tell engaging stories about their work and conservation in general.

The 3-day course will include sessions on:

1. What makes for good storytelling
2. How stories can incorporate science and data as well as anecdotes and experiences from the field
3. How stories can be told in different ways, formats and medium
4. In-class writing assignments each day
5. Pitching your stories to publications, and working with editors
6. Communicating with journalists, and writing press releases

The three-day course will be full-time, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will take in a maximum of 15 participants. Attendees will be expected to work on short assignments and actively participate in discussions.

[P.S.: If participants already have something they wish to work on, that can be discussed too]

Resource Person(s)



Shreya
Dasgupta

DETAILS

Duration: 3 days

Dates: 29–31 January

Capacity: 15

Location: Bangalore

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PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The success of a conservation project is dependent on how well it has been planned, executed, monitored and evaluated. As a conservation biologist, one is part of the planning or developing of a project either as a project leader or a team member. Depending on the duration, budget and magnitude, the project could be of a small or large scale. Irrespective of the scale, the principles of design, execution and evaluation remain the same. In this module of project planning and management one will learn how to identify a conservation problem, analyse stakeholders, define objectives and the process of achieving them and understand and manage teams.

DETAILS

Duration: 4 days

Dates: 5–8 February

Capacity: 20

Location: Bangalore

Resource Person(s)



Erika
D'Souza

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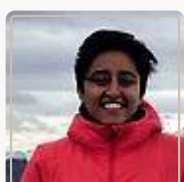
WORKING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES:

an introduction to the PARTNERS principles for community-based conservation

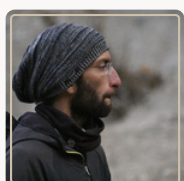
Engaging and partnering with local communities is critical to the success of conservation efforts. The practical challenges of achieving effective engagement are considerable and conservation practitioners often learn from trial and error.

A set of principles and guidelines for community-based conservation, called the 'PARTNERS principles', have been developed based on the extensive experience of snow leopard conservation practitioners. They comprise a set of eight key principles for effectively taking forward community-based conservation programs. The principles have evolved into a workshop and an online toolkit to allow for practitioners to gather and discuss experiences and conservation issues. We hope that these principles will help us reflect on our work and think of how we can work towards developing stronger and more resilient relationships with community partners. If you are a conservation practitioner, or are preparing to work in conservation, the Partner Principles may help you explore, discuss and share different perspectives and approaches to community-based conservation. This module was developed in partnership with the Snow Leopard Trust.

Resource Person(s)



Deepshikha
Sharma



Munib
Khanyari

DETAILS

Duration: 2 days

Dates: 4–5 March

Capacity: 10

Location: Bangalore

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CONSERVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This short course introduces the idea of conservation entrepreneurship through case studies and participant projects. Participants bring an idea they want to work on to the course and engage with questions around the theory of change for a conservation enterprise, including when is the ripe and ready state for such interventions. Participants deep dive into the conservation and business logic behind enterprise ideas and explore what it means to sell goods and services in a marketplace, including questions of ethics. Participants apply these ideas to their own enterprise ideas thinking about the scale of the enterprise and its stated goals and how might success of the enterprise be evaluated. Finally, we use a systems-thinking approach to understand positional and informal power of different stakeholders, points of leverage and values, loyalties and losses within the system.

Resource Person(s)



Arshiya
Bose

DETAILS

Duration: 3 days

Dates: 6–8 March

Capacity: 15

Location: Bangalore

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MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Conservation problems are invariably complex involving multiple interacting environmental, social and institutional factors. This course will introduce frameworks for recognizing and understanding these factors, interactions, and their underlying drivers, which in turn can improve development, implementation and evaluation of conservation projects. Through a combination of lectures, case studies and group discussions, the course will explore key definitions and concepts of the theory of change framework, including indicators of success, methods of verification, assumptions and risks. Participants will also be introduced to online resources that can help to incorporate monitoring and evaluation frameworks into their ongoing and future conservation projects.

DETAILS

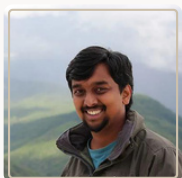
Duration: 4 days

Dates: 11-14 March

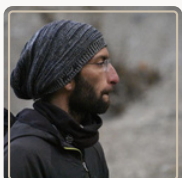
Capacity: 10-15

Location: Bangalore

Resource Person(s)



Abishek
Harihar



Munib
Khanyari

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