

報告番号	※	第	号
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## 主論文の要旨

論文題目 Human wildlife conflict and policy towards coexistence in the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Nepal  
(ネパール・コシタップ野生生物保護区における人間と野生生物のコンフリクトと共生に向けた政策)

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## 論文内容の要旨

Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) represents a growing source of concern for the agro-pastoral community living near protected areas. For the sake of global benefits through the natural conservation and biodiversity, the adjacent community people are bearing a tremendous cost. On the other hand, many of the rare species are at the verge of extinction due to human wildlife conflict and retaliatory actions. To understand the dimensions of human wildlife conflict, a comprehensive ground level study is required that can address the problem created by humans and wildlife around the protected areas.

Thus, my first study examined the food security impact on adjacent community people due to crop damage by wild animals and sought the ground level solutions based on local people experiences. The second study explored the problems of existing compensation, its procedures, and peoples' perception on compensation and coexistence. And in the third study, I analyzed the government policy on conservation with reference to human wildlife conflict. For the first study, data was collected through semi-structured interviews conducted with 250 households and 18 key informant interviews. My results revealed that 96% of the respondents had experienced conflicts with wild animals, of which 66% named rice as their major damaged crop. Wild elephants were the key contributors (62%) to this damage. To mitigate HWC, 59% of the respondents suggested the construction of concrete walls around the affected areas. Involving the local community in the conservation stewardship can help to reduce HWC in the protected landscapes of Nepal.

Further, compensation for wildlife damage contributes to increase tolerance

towards wild animals and promote coexistence in protected areas however; human-wildlife conflict (HWC) still has been found escalating. This study also explored the attitudes of communities regarding wildlife damage compensation. It proposed changes to existing compensation policies based on local consensus. For this study, data was collected through the survey of 250 rural citizens and 18 key informant interviews from Sunsari, Saptari, and Udayapur Districts near Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR). I conducted a total of 268 household surveys and direct field observations. I acquired archival data from KTWR and the Department of Wildlife Reserve and National Parks (DNPWR) of Nepal. Corruption, procedural hassle, political authority misuse, and biased treatment were the main obstacles to effective wildlife damage compensation. Most respondents suggested a rational or scientific measurement system that evaluates the occurred damage with more accuracy, fast-track payment, and hassle free application procedure, and believed that KTWR authority and the central government must take action together to manage HWC. Households depending on subsistence farming rejected human-animal coexistence whereas those engaged in other occupations accepted it and conservation measures as well. It can be drawn conclusion that if the adjacent community are provided with the opportunity for the alternative sources of income and modified their traditional agriculture practice, there is much probability of coexistence to promote conservation and protect diversity in the region.

For the policy analysis, I used old and new policy documents of the government, published articles, books magazines and newspapers. I concluded that the government of Nepal has changed its policy in conservation drastically where active public participation has been anticipated. Government started sharing the benefits of conservation to the local people to motivate them for conservation and protect the natural resources for their future generations. However, there are many issues that need to be addressed in the compensation policy and its procedures. Through the fieldwork, I came to understand that there is conflict and misunderstanding between reserve authority and the local community people. The poor understanding between these two stakeholders, the conservation attempts and the implementation of policy is not so smooth. Local community dough the transparency and fair in compensation distribution and damage assessments. Therefore, before compiling all the policies I suggest a prior socio-economic phenomena study. And the most importantly, one national policy cannot be effective as Nepal has clearly different geography, vegetation, species of wild animals and various ethnic populations.