



ANNUAL
REPORT

TAI

2012

WWF TIGERS ALIVE INITIATIVE ANNUAL REPORT 2012



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Prepared by WWF Tigers Alive Initiative

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE TIGERS ALIVE INITIATIVE

Redoubling our tiger conservation efforts through a fresh comprehensive plan that values all stakeholders and sets ambitious goals for each tiger country.



Dr Sejal Worah
TAI Chair and Shareholder
Conservation Director
WWF India

"The TAI has not only significantly raised the profile of our Tiger Conservation work within and outside the WWF network, but has enhanced our ability to address the larger issues and threats facing the tiger that go beyond the boundaries of individual countries."

November 2010 represented a landmark for tiger conservation. In cold, snowy weather not unlike that found in winter Amur tiger habitat, tiger country governments and world leaders came together in St. Petersburg, Russia to forge a new plan for the future of the tiger. The leaders recognized that in order to save the wild tiger, we must work together and go beyond "business as usual", redoubling our tiger conservation efforts through a fresh comprehensive plan that values all stakeholders and sets ambitious goals for each tiger country. The result, the *Global Tiger Recovery Programme*(GTRP) not only declares a new path forward for tiger conservation, but also goes a step further in adopting the WWF goal of TX2, doubling the number of tigers, by the next Year of the Tiger in 2022.

Meanwhile, the pressure on tigers and their habitats throughout Asia and the Russian Far East in 2011 only intensified. Incidences such as the arrest of a tiger trader in Sumatra, plans for a logging company to raze important tiger habitat in Russia (averted in part due to WWF action), and the poisoning of a collared tiger in Nepal, all served to remind tiger range countries and the global community that immediate and emphatic implementation of the GTRP is our top priority.

Good news during the year, however, also led to momentum and the laying of a solid foundation for tiger recovery. In July, the final results of the most comprehensive tiger survey ever undertaken, the 2010-2011 All India Tiger Estimation, where WWF-India was a key NGO partner, revealed a 20 percent increase in tigers from the previous count in 2006. The South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) was up and running with support from TRAFFIC and WWF, building capacity on wildlife crime investigation. In November, the worldwide police agency INTERPOL, announced Project Predator, designed to support and enhance governance and law enforcement capacity in tiger range countries to improve the conservation of wild tigers.

The WWF Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI) during the year focused on the demanding task of bringing the GTRP to life, collaborating closely with partners to ensure words on paper transformed to actions on the ground. At a meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, in August, 2011, the TAI joined its partners, including host organization the Global Tiger Forum (GTF), in reporting on progress to date, and developing a consensus on tiger protected area management standards, as well as a GTRP monitoring process. The TAI continues to work towards strengthening the GTF and during the year has helped strengthen their communication capacity. The TAI throughout the year worked with the tiger range countries on drafting their National Tiger Recovery Priorities (NTRPs).

The TAI made progress at the local level as well, working with WWF country offices in the tiger countries and with landscape teams to help build a solid foundation for the

GTRP and move tiger conservation forward. In India, WWF teams played a significant role in the groundbreaking tiger estimation which revealed that many of the corridor and reserve forest areas where we are working hold promising tiger populations. In China, the WWF team was instrumental in the government's launch of the new China Tiger Recovery Programme while helping to increase patrolling and monitoring, putting the MIST (Management Information System) enforcement management software to work.

WWF Nepal's strong ranger commitments and community-based programmes resulted in no tigers being poached in Chitwan National Park in 2011, and the handover of more than 140 locally made firearms which are often used for poaching. In Thailand, WWF teams helped establish tiger prey and enforcement monitoring systems in Mae Wong and Klong Lan National Parks. In Russia, the WWF Far East team joined indigenous peoples groups and sprung into action and appealed to the government when controversial logging permits threatened prime Amur tiger habitat. The permits went under review, and the forest remains intact.

In June, a meeting attended by teams from the TAI's 12 priority landscapes marked the first time the whole group had gathered together in one place. The exchanges led to finalization of the landscape boundaries, and a list of priorities for each team to go back and implement. It also led to the conceptualization of our Zero Poaching Action.

As these processes gather momentum, poaching, and its increasingly sophisticated practitioner network, remains the number one threat to tigers. Tiger country governments must tackle this threat urgently and forcefully, and the TAI has taken the lead by launching Zero Poaching of Tigers, an effort to garner the full commitment of the governments at the Tiger Summit +1 meeting in 2012, and beyond.

As we look forward to another full year of tiger conservation action, we will boost our tiger country partnerships to help form commitments and action on Zero Poaching, while also solidifying our work in our 12 priority tiger landscapes. We thank all of our partners, from the local communities to national governments to international institutions, for truly keeping the flame for tigers alive. We are grateful for your continued support, and invite you to join us as this new era for tiger conservation dawns.

Sejal Worah
Chair, Tigers Alive Initiative

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF THE TIGERS ALIVE INITIATIVE

To strengthen our “on the ground” efforts and support in the 12 priority landscapes.



Mike Baltzer

Leader
Tigers Alive Initiative
WWF

“It is wonderful, inspiring and motivating to see the way the WWF offices, teams, staff and our partners and supporters recognize the urgency for the tiger and the focus that the TX2 goal provides, and have rallied for tigers in a way we have never seen before.”

As the St. Petersburg International Tiger Forum passed its one year anniversary in November 2011, we look both back at the busy year of the WWF Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI) and forward to plans and hopes for the year ahead. The momentum and excitement provided by the Forum, also referred to as the Tiger Summit, propelled WWF’s work on the ground and in the conference halls. The TAI has focused on working with the tiger range countries laying the new foundation for an unprecedented push to save the tiger and lead the way to our shared goal of TX2 or doubling the number of wild tigers.

The first task after the Summit, for the TAI, was to strengthen our own efforts and support on the ground in the 12 priority landscapes. We brought together our landscape teams and put in place new, systematic and strategic plans to sharpen the focus of our work in the landscapes towards the goal of doubling the number of tigers in the wild. Matched with the new plans, a system was installed to allow us to monitor and evaluate the progress of our efforts and investments aimed at reaching the new goal. We now have a series of key performance indicators that we can report on across the landscapes each year in an annual report such as this.

Within the landscapes we selected priorities for high-level protection, sound scientific monitoring and capacity building for management effectiveness particularly in key protected areas. We also identified the best practices for reducing conflict and improving land-use planning for tiger conservation that we can share and apply in all the landscapes. We present many of the successes, as well as the ongoing challenges, that the WWF landscapes’ teams, together with our partners have experienced in the last year. Many of these stories give us all hope that we are making a difference and that the goal of doubling the number of wild tigers is within our grasp – provided we keep up the intensity of the effort and continue to innovate.

The recognition of the urgent crisis for tigers and the momentum provided by the Summit has also triggered new thinking, new partnerships and new approaches. The growing issue of tiger trade prompts the need for renewed energy and ideas. The TAI has moved quickly on this – last year, with TRAFFIC, we began our efforts to make a serious attempt to reduce the demand for tiger parts. In Hong Kong, experts were drawn from different backgrounds and fields working on behaviour change to examine methods to reduce demand. The conclusions of that meeting will be used next year to launch a major demand reduction campaign in China and Vietnam.

Fundamental to the plan of the TAI is the need to help maintain and channel the energy, ambition and passion for wild tigers shown by the leaders of the tiger range countries at the Summit. Much of the effort of the WWF and TRAFFIC teams across the globe under the TAI has been targeted at supporting the delivery of the National

Tiger Recovery Priorities (NTRPs), the national constitutive elements of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP). As well as providing support to the Global Tiger Initiative and the Global Tiger Forum in their efforts to help plan and monitor the implementation of the NTRPs, the main focus of the TAI has been to help secure the funds necessary for rapid and effective delivery of these priorities.

As we stride forward into 2012, the TAI plans to continue to break new ground in tiger conservation with initiatives such as CA/TS – Conservation Assured/Tiger Standards – which is an accreditation scheme aimed to reach new standards in protected area management and the commencement of our first true TX2 site at Rajaji National Park in the Terai Arc Landscape in India (you will need to read the report further to find out more!). While we move ahead on new approaches and efforts to double the number of wild tigers, our main focus for the year ahead is to make a significant change against our old enemy and the wild tiger’s main nemesis – the act of poaching.

This year, the TAI is placing a major emphasis on mobilizing efforts to bring poaching as close to zero as possible, as soon as possible. We aim to build support, investment and commitment to intensify and strengthen efforts to stop tigers being poached. Efforts to double the number of wild tigers will need to ensure that any successful results of increasing tiger populations are not held back by poaching. WWF efforts towards zero poaching aim to ensure that the beating hearts of the tiger landscapes – the core areas where tigers live and breed – are under full protection. This is vital and most reassuringly, it is achievable.

With the Summit driving our momentum, the foundations laid over the last year, and the urgency and need to make a difference everyday for tigers pulling us forward, the elements are in place for success. They have to be as we cannot fail in this important task ahead.

The past year has shown what can be done, and throughout this year I look forward to us doing even more.



Mike Baltzer

Leader. WWF Tigers Alive Initiative

THE TIGER SUMMIT: BREAKING NEW GROUND

THE LANDMARK
SUMMIT HAS THE
POTENTIAL FOR
FAR REACHING
IMPACT



James Compton
TAI Shareholder
Senior Director, Asia-Pacific,
TRAFFIC International

I believe that Goal 2 of the TAI strategy defines a new strain of innovative approaches that are needed urgently to boost anti-trafficking work to a new level. This will enable TRAFFIC, together with WWF, to disrupt the trade chains that drive poaching in key Tiger landscapes.'

The recognition of the urgent crisis for tigers and the momentum provided by the Summit has also triggered new thinking, new partnerships and new approaches.

Throughout 2011, the Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI), along with the rest of the WWF network, and its partners, worked at mobilizing tiger country governments and the worldwide tiger conservation community to build a solid and sustainable foundation for a new tiger conservation era after the groundbreaking International Tiger Forum, held in St. Petersburg, Russia in November 2010. The Forum, also referred to as the Summit, marked one of the most significant global developments for tiger conservation to date, and it has the potential for far reaching impact.

The landmark Summit marked the first time that heads of government have met to discuss the fate of a single species, other than humans. In addition to a host of international leaders, agencies and NGOs, the Summit received the highest support from the 13 countries that still have wild tigers. The Heads of Government from 5 countries – Bangladesh, The People's Republic of China, Lao PDR, Nepal and Russia – attended the gathering along with senior ministers. This inaugural gathering was hosted by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and President Robert Zoellick of the World Bank.

Recognizing that the tiger's recent rapid decline and future as a vital Asian species and worldwide icon demanded unified, fresh and robust action, the leaders advanced the St. Petersburg Declaration on Tiger Conservation. This declaration is a bold statement of intent to stop the tiger's decline and actively champion its recovery. The ensuing Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP) was adopted by all 13 tiger range countries. The leaders took up the mantle of TX2, an ambitious goal which seeks to not only save tigers, but double their numbers in the wild from the current 3,200 to at least 6,000 by the Year of the Tiger in 2022. The GTRP lays out a comprehensive set of actions to help tigers recover from decades of poaching and destruction of their forest homes. The tiger countries also stepped up to draft national level commitments towards tiger conservation. The NTRPs, or National Tiger Recovery Priorities, will effectively serve as the backbone of the GTRP process.

The Summit also led to the signing of a letter of intent by the Heads of CITES, ICPO-INTERPOL, UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization to form the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC).

As the GTRP was launched and officially adopted by all 13 tiger countries, approximately US\$127 million of new government funding was committed for tiger conservation. However, an additional US\$350 million is still needed from the international community to implement the GTRP in the first five years. WWF committed its support with a minimum of \$10 million per year for the first five years. In 2011 this target was slightly exceeded, and our hope is that we can raise even more funds. In fact, we hope to raise at least US\$85 million over the first five years of the GTRP implementation, and maintain that level of support up to and beyond 2022.

PROJECT PREDATOR LAUNCHED BY INTERPOL



Vijay Moktan
TAI Shareholder
Director
Conservation Programme
WWF Bhutan

"The TAI is one of WWF's network wide initiatives. We in the Bhutan team are happy to be part of the Initiative. Its actions are well thought out and most importantly, fast."

The TAI presented on tiger monitoring and enforcement systems at the first Summit follow up meeting in India in March, 2011. This meeting was held in parallel to the Indian government announcement of their preliminary results for their 2010-11 tiger count. At the next meeting in August, in Hanoi, Vietnam, progress on the first half year of the GTRP was detailed. The TAI Chair, Dr. Sejal Worah, on behalf of the Global Tiger Forum (GTF) also outlined a proposal for monitoring the GTRP. In November, INTERPOL announced the launch of Project Predator which has a global objective to help develop effective governance and rule of law and improve the quality of criminal justice responses to tiger crime.

The Summit+1 (the 1st Stocktaking Meeting of Senior Officials and Experts to review implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme), is due to take place in May 2012 hosted by the Government of India. The TAI is progressing with its work with governments on the NTRPs' finalisation and implementation, in addition to helping to define the GTRP priorities as the "Summit process" gains momentum for its second year.

In 2011, the WWF TAI offered financial, logistical and technical support to any one of the tiger range countries (TRCs) planning to convene national level workshops to help countries match local donors' interests with commitments in the NTRPs. This has not rolled out as quickly as the TAI hoped. In fact, by 2012 only one country, ie Indonesia held a workshop in January. This National Resource Mobilization Workshop was held in Indonesia, jointly organized by several NGOs with support from the Indonesian Government. China and Nepal have held meetings to discuss the potential of having such workshops in their respective countries. The TAI has sent out calls to the relevant people in the WWF network within the TRCs to step up on the process of engaging locally-based donors, finding matches between donors' agendas and NTRPs or at least, provoking these donors' interest in the NTRPs. The TAI understands that it is challenging work to coordinate such a workshop but is still eager and willing to support their implementation. Results from a successful workshop could mean increased engagement by the donors in the NTRPs, thus increasing the probabilities of having these commitments realized.



Young people of various nationalities showing their support for tiger conservation at the Youth Summit in St Petersburg, 2010, held simultaneously with the International Tiger Forum.

THE TIGERS ALIVE INITIATIVE

The TAI has three goals: protect tigers, their prey and habitat, eliminate the illegal tiger trade and increase political will, commitment and funding.

THE TAI STRATEGY
HAS THREE GOALS
WHICH WILL
ULTIMATELY LEAD
TO TX2



Anwar Purwoto
TAI Shareholder
Director of Forest,
WWF- Indonesia

"Conserving the Sumatran Tiger will be much more effective if it can be done collaboratively among related stakeholders, nationally and globally. The TAI has developed these collaborative actions to support and materialize work on Sumatran Tiger conservation"

The Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI) was launched by WWF in 2009 with one simple overarching goal: to halt the tiger's recent rapid decline in the wild and double its numbers (TX2) by the next Year of the Tiger in 2022. The current number of wild tigers stands as low as 3,200. To reach the ambitious goal of 6,000 wild tigers in 12 years, the TAI is working closely with our partners while mobilizing the full force of the WWF network, from the researchers and field staff to the donors to the policy and advocacy experts working with decision makers and governments.

The TAI's strategy has three goals that lead towards TX2: protect tigers, their prey and habitat in 12 TAI Priority Landscapes, eliminate the illegal tiger trade and increase political will, commitment and funding for tiger conservation.

The first goal of protecting tigers, their prey and habitat is carried out through a series of critical actions in the landscapes, including: anti poaching, protected area management and capacity building, community engagement and outreach, human tiger conflict mitigation, tiger and prey monitoring, habitat management and ensuring landscape connectivity and sustainable financing.

In order to achieve the second goal, the TAI works with TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network of WWF and IUCN, to eliminate trafficking in tiger parts and derivatives through trade research and law enforcement support. We also leverage high level government commitment to strengthen policies against illegal tiger trade and consumption. We are at this point developing a demand reduction strategy that targets tiger product consumers in premier market destinations.

The TAI also advocates for effective laws and relevant legislation that supports the sufficient allocation of resources to law enforcement agencies and protected area officials.

Revising the ambition of the work on stopping tiger trafficking proved to be a lesson in adaptive management for the TAI last year. Several activities were consolidated into higher-level objectives, which then became the framework for describing a programme of work called 'Breaking the Links in the Tiger Trade Chain' to deliver results under the second goal of the TAI. This restructuring also supports targeted fundraising to support the goal, and will enable more effective management of efforts by TRAFFIC and WWF to address critical threats posed by wildlife trade to tigers.

On the policy front, the TAI is working to find optimum solutions for tigers and development to co-exist. The TAI Smart Infrastructure Planning (SIP) tool is a planning tool to model the best areas for conserving tigers and monitor the impact of infrastructure development in these areas. The TAI is also working alongside the wider WWF network to establish pilot funds from financing schemes, such as transfer mechanisms from infrastructure projects to tiger conservation funds, in addition to collaborating on mechanisms such as the United Nations' REDD (reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation) and REDD+ programmes. The TAI is an active

partner in the Global Tiger Initiative (GTI), which is a significant alliance of major conservation NGOs, governments and international agencies to save wild tigers from extinction. Strategic partnerships with the business and industry sector are also being forged to create innovative win-win solutions for corporations and tiger conservation.

In 2011, the TAI focused on a joint network-wide effort in promoting the first major call-to-action following the groundbreaking global Tiger Summit in St. Petersburg, Russia in November 2010. The TAI called on tiger range countries to bring to life the Summit's founding document, the Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP). As a first important step, the TAI launched the Zero Poaching of Tigers action in the latter half of 2011. Zero Poaching aims at mobilizing the tiger range countries and the global tiger community to drive immediately towards eliminating the most acute threat to tigers, poaching, and its growing and increasingly sophisticated network of practitioners.

A few "wins" have been achieved and we proudly list them in the section below, but a huge amount of work, fund-raising, and clear targeting of priority tiger landscapes will be required to forge a path towards 'TX2,' or the doubling of wild tiger populations.

ZERO POACHING OF TIGERS LAUNCHED IN 2011



Nick Cox
TAI Shareholder
Regional Coordinator
WWF Laos

"The TAI has created a tiger conservation community within WWF that wasn't there before. It has elevated WWF's profile, and has inspired our ambitions to go beyond business as usual. I firmly believe that we are much more united behind the tiger conservation cause as a result of the TAI"



ROARING FORWARD IN 2011

Some highlights of successes since the Summit

Coming on the heels of the Tiger Summit, 2011 marked a busy year in the TAI's work to support the GTRP implementation and keep the momentum up for TX2. We worked closely with our partners from the frontlines in the protected areas to international policy arenas to better protect tigers and advance this ambitious agenda. Moving forward, the TAI achieved success on the ground, working with partners and WWF staff to protect the sites that serve as the last refuges for tigers, and vital to doubling their numbers. Some examples of our achievements are as follows:



Paper mache tigers, designed for the International Tiger Forum, displayed outside the Kremlin in St Petersburg, to capture the attention of delegates and public.

GOAL 1 - PROTECTING TIGERS, THEIR PREY AND HABITAT

We must first and foremost protect the “tiger heartlands” – the core areas where the last remaining tigers live and breed.

If we are to achieve TX2 – doubling the number of wild tigers – by the next Year of the Tiger in 2022, we must first and foremost protect the core areas where many of the last remaining tiger populations live and breed. The Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI)’s landscape approach sharpened its focus in 2011. Working across all 12 landscapes, the TAI, collaborating with its partners, garnered numerous successes while working on the frontlines to tackle the burgeoning challenges and threats facing tigers and their habitats on a daily basis.



Anti-poaching

The TAI extended its work with partners, organizations, community teams and our landscape teams on the ground in 2011 to help stop poaching. Trainings and introduction of enforcement monitoring software led to success in these landscapes.

In Nepal’s Terai Arc landscape, a gun handover programme established by WWF and its partners came to life in 2011, resulting in the collection of more than 140 locally-made firearms, which are often used for illegally hunting wildlife in protected areas. In Russia Far East, a new project to protect tigers in the northernmost reaches of the Amur Heilong landscape in Khabarovsk Province will lead to the formation of three new anti-poaching groups, based in local communities. The TAI also trained rangers and protected area teams from Nepal, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia in the application of the law enforcement and monitoring software, MIST, and tactical enforcement.

Two new tiger law enforcement monitoring programmes were introduced during the year: SMART and M-STRIPES. The TAI is working with partner conservation organizations and protected area authorities to finalize SMART and test it in 2012, while M-STRIPES was launched in India late in 2011. WWF provided inputs into the development of the M-STRIPES programme. At the end of the year, the TAI launched its Zero Poaching of Tigers action, which seeks government commitments to move towards zero poaching of tigers in their landscapes through building the will, capacity and numbers of rangers, protected area officials and communities working on the frontlines in the core areas, or tiger “heartlands”.

Towards the end of the year the TAI recognized teams doing outstanding work in landscape management and monitoring by announcing its Tigers Alive Initiative Awards for Excellence in Protection Efforts 2011. The winning landscape teams included Nepal’s Terai Arc (Best Site Based Intelligence Work), India’s Western Ghats-Nilgiris (Most Effective Enforcement Team), China’s Amur Heilong (Best Law Enforcement Monitoring Effort), Cambodia’s Eastern Plains/Forests of the Lower Mekong (Best Patrolling Team) and Indonesia’s South Sumatra (Best Enforcement Partnership).



Dr Carlos Drews

TAI Shareholder
Director, Global Species Program,
WWF-International

“The TAI makes impressive progress for tigers by improving protected area management, combating illegal trade and enlisting range states for long-term commitments and implementation”

NEW INITIATIVES INTRODUCED IN SEVERAL LANDSCAPES



Dr Ola Jennersten

TAI Shareholder
Director of International Conservation
WWF Sweden

“I am impressed at how the TAI was able to support, in cooperation with others, initiate and carry through the Tiger Summit process - the first time ever a single species has received a number of Prime Ministers’ combined attention and agreement”



The team at Eastern Plains in Cambodia won the Tigers Alive Initiative Awards for Excellence in Protection Efforts, 2011 for ‘Best Patrolling Team’

Protected Area Management and Capacity Building

Knowledge and skill attainment were the keys to improving protected area management in 2011, and the TAI introduced new initiatives in several landscapes, while also designing programmes that will raise management standards and continue building the capacities of parks to protect tigers.

- In the winter of 2011, forest authorities in China launched an Amur tiger and leopard monitoring programme developed by WWF. Technical training courses for rangers were provided in advance of the programme launch. The CA/TS (Conservation Assured/ Tigers Standards) programme – a new set of guidelines designed for managers to use in parks that hold tigers – was initiated by the TAI and its partners and is moving towards implementation in 2012.
- WWF-India continued strengthening the capacity of the frontline staff in India’s tiger bearing forests. In 2011 critical support was provided in the form of four-wheel drive vehicles, motorcycles, boats and bicycles; construction of anti-poaching camps; field gear including backpacks, searchlights, shoes, mosquito nets, jackets, communication gear including wireless base stations and handsets and deep search metal detectors, used for detecting leg traps laid by poachers.

WWF-India empowers the protected area managers and field staff by recognizing their efforts at the national level. In September 2011, Mr. Shri R. Sreenivasa Murthy, Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Panna Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh and Mr. Shri Tana Tapi, Divisional Forest Officer, Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary Assam were awarded the WWF-Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) *Bagh Mitra Award* (Friend of Tigers Award) for working to revive and protect tiger populations in the country.

WWF-India has also constituted, in association with the Assam state Forest Department, the annual ‘WWF-Assam Forest Department Vanya Prani Mitra Awards’ to recognize their forest staff who have shown exemplary service towards the protection of Assam’s wildlife. Four frontline staff of the Department, one from Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and three from the Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park, were given this award.

Community Outreach

Bringing communities and indigenous peoples into the tiger conservation process is essential to protecting tigers in the areas near human settlements. In 2011, WWF country teams worked for further integration of local communities into existing and new tiger conservation efforts.

BRINGING COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE INTO THE TIGER CONSERVATION PROCESS IS ESSENTIAL.



Dr Christy Williams

TAI Shareholder
Coordinator
AREAS Programme
WWF-International

"The TAI is one of the most open and welcoming tiger conservation initiatives that I've had a chance to work with inside and outside of WWF - It is probably one reason that they will end up leaving a positive legacy on tiger conservation at the WWF priority sites."

In the Russian Far East, WWF staff joined with indigenous peoples to expand their Bikin River Project, which protects more than 460,000 hectares of Korean Pine and riparian forest, a prime tiger habitat. A new project implemented in partnership with the German Government and German Development Bank in these forests was launched in August 2011. Indigenous peoples were also brought in as principal partners in a joint project between WWF-Russia and Sweden's Nordens Ark Zoo that will work on conservation of a northern tiger population in the Russian Far East's Khabarovsk Province. The Udege and Nanai tribes will get jobs working for eco-tourism groups and as members of anti-poaching patrols. Additional project plans include launching a biodiversity school curriculum and opening a local visitor centre.

On 25th September, 2011, WWF Russia and the people of Vladivostok celebrated Tiger Day for the 12th time. About 6000 participants represented by secondary schools, kindergartens, pioneer houses, children creativity centers and higher education institutions paraded through the city centre.

In Chitwan National Park in Nepal's Terai Arc, WWF has worked with local authorities to set up 21 user communities in local villages near the park's borders. These groups patrol the parks and organize community-wide events, such as plays and dramas on wildlife protection and door-to-door visits with residents. The active engagement of the committees led to the capture of 42 people doing illegal activities in the Park in 2011.

India has continued its work with children of the Pardis, a traditional wildlife hunting community, near Panna Tiger Reserve in Central India. Efforts are being successfully made to bring these children in and around Panna into the mainstream and enable them to move towards other livelihoods beside hunting.

In Mankanthpur village in the Terai Arc Landscape community members have become part of community forest patrolling teams along with the Forest Department officials. This has not only helped increase the efforts to combat poaching but also prevented human encroachment into forests.

Human-Tiger Conflict Mitigation

Human-tiger conflict remains an everyday issue for many people living in tiger landscapes. It is essential, particularly if we hope to double the number of wild tigers in increasingly human-dominated landscapes, that we find solutions as rapidly as possible. WWF-India initiated activities across the tiger landscapes aimed at eliminating retaliatory killings of tigers and its co-predators due to conflict with humans. Many of these innovations are being tested in India with some successes, as detailed further in this report.

Tiger and Prey Monitoring

The WWF landscape teams are rapidly stepping up their tiger and tiger prey monitoring in core areas and corridors. The information obtained is vital for measuring and monitoring progress and to demonstrate the importance of tigers in areas under threat of destruction.

In Bukit Tigapuluh (30 Hills) in the Central Sumatra landscape, continuous monitoring throughout 2011 with camera traps and patrols led to the discovery of more than one tiger family. The photographs and reports obtained eventually led to worldwide attention on the plight of the tigers in a landscape highly threatened by pulp and paper companies. A series of documentary specials on Bukit Tigapuluh and the surrounding

area will air on CNN International in 2012. The launch of a tiger monitoring programme in Wandashan Forest in China's Amur Heilong landscape led to the first ever capture of a tiger on film, through a camera trap, in the area. WWF-China is now working with the provincial forestry departments to finalize tiger conservation strategies in the landscape.

Habitat Management and Landscape Connectivity

As new infrastructure explodes in Asia in tandem with the growth of the Asian economies, the pressure on tiger landscapes particularly on corridors or connections within those landscapes, increased greatly in 2011. WWF teams on the ground worked with local and national governments to increase awareness of these landscape connections and contributed to the dialogue of keeping them intact and thriving as infrastructure development reaches ever further into wild tiger movement areas.

A WWF-India programme in a wildlife corridor between Kaziranga tiger reserve and the Karbi Anglong district led to documentation of a tiger using the important connector in a heavily populated area, with calls for greater protection. WWF was involved in a process between India and Bhutan to link Manas National Park in India and Royal Manas Reserve in Bhutan, which share the India-Bhutan national border, and both of which contain important tiger populations.

WWF-India has been lobbying with the National Tiger Conservation Authority of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and the state Forest Department for securing important corridors like the Gola corridor between Terai Central and Terai East Forest Divisions, Kosi corridor between Corbett Tiger Reserve and Ramnagar Forest Division and Bailpadao-Kotabagh corridor in Ramangar Forest Division within the Terai Arc Landscape; the Pench-Satpuda corridor in Satpuda Maikal Landscape; the Sigur corridor in Western Ghats Nilgiris Landscape; and the Tipi corridor in the North Bank Landscape.

A report in 2011 by WWF-India submitted to the Government highlighted the threat by a proposed railway line expansion to the crucial Kanha-Pench corridor linking tiger habitats in Central India and recommended steps to keep the corridor intact. WWF-India is also working on a corridor restoration and management plan for the Pench-Satpuda corridor in central India that is threatened by potential coal mining.



Dr Colman O'Criodain

TAI Shareholder
Wildlife Trade Policy Analyst
Species Programme
WWF-International

"Time and again the TAI has demonstrated impressive convening power; whether it is mobilising the WWF network around the build-up to the St. Petersburg summit in 2010 or bringing together practitioners working on tiger landscapes at a meeting in Thailand in 2011."

In Malaysia, the TAI contributed to an Executive Leadership Forum organized by the Global Tiger Initiative, the Smithsonian Institute and the Government of Malaysia. The Forum was aimed at examining methods to mainstream tiger conservation in human dominated landscapes. The meeting provided an opportunity for the Malaysian government to showcase the exemplary measures undertaken to build underpasses and overpasses across new roads allowing tigers and other animals such as elephants to cross.

Working together across borders

Another essential part of landscape scale tiger conservation emphasized in the work programme this year has been the initiatives to strengthen cooperation across international borders. Initial cooperation between India and Bhutan on joint tiger monitoring has led to a growing dialogue towards creating a partnership for the Manas protected areas found on either side of the border. Together these parks, lying adjacent to each other but separated by the international border, represent one of the largest blocks of connected tiger forest left in the Eastern Himalayas. With effective management, these areas could hold an important population of tigers.

REALIZING TX2 IN RAJAJI NATIONAL PARK

On the western edge of the Terai Arc landscape straddling India and Nepal, the hilly Shivalik habitats form the range limit for many of the vast area's charismatic fauna, including the tiger. It is here, near the banks of the river Ganga in Rajaji National Park where TX2 – doubling the number of wild tigers – comes to life.

In 2011, the Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI) launched an ambitious project to increase tiger numbers throughout Rajaji's forests, grasslands and hills. Studies have shown that a decrease in human pressures around eastern Rajaji has led to an increase in tiger and tiger prey densities. Enhanced protection and better connectivity to tiger source sites can continue to help recover tiger numbers, even though the area also has dense human populations. The TAI and WWF- India are partnering with park authorities and the state government to help transform Rajaji into a model TX2 site.

As a start, a camera trapping exercise was carried out in December 2011, revealing at least 14 tigers using the eastern sector of the park and three using the western sector. As tigers in the western sector have not been observed breeding since 2006, doubling their numbers in that area will be a focus of the project. Studies indicate the western sector could potentially hold up to 40 tigers.

The first focused activity of the Rajaji TX2 project will therefore be to restore and maintain connectivity of critical wildlife corridors between the east and west sectors of the park. In addition, the TAI and its partners will seek to develop effective protection systems for the park, increase the availability of good habitat for prey species, and effectively manage and mitigate human-wildlife conflict around the park.

An exciting gallery of individual tiger images has already been captured by WWF and Wildlife Institute of India camera traps in Rajaji. As the project expands in 2012, the hope is that new individuals will be revealed on a consistent basis. The state government is also exploring the idea of translocating a male tiger to the park's western sector where three female tigers have been recorded.

GOAL 2 - ELIMINATING THE ILLEGAL TIGER TRADE



There is an increasingly complex and technology-savvy network of criminal traffickers who help feed a strong demand for wildlife products.

As tiger traders and their networks become ever more sophisticated, confronting this illegal trade must remain a top priority for the WWF TAI. The TAI and its main partner TRAFFIC work to cut the links of the entire trade chain in three important areas: 1) research into illegal killing and trade; 2) providing technical support to law enforcement agencies; and 3) using research-driven advocacy approaches to influence decision-makers. As the TAI takes action in these areas, we also work to reduce consumer demand for tiger parts, a crucial activity that will help maximize conservation impact.



Volker Holmes
TAI Shareholder
Director
Species Conservation &
TRAFFIC
WWF Germany

"I feel inspired by the work of the WWF TAI in the past year to make a difference for the future of tigers. If we get the support of many players, we can make a vision come true and double the Tiger numbers in the coming decade."

Law enforcement support

Several seizures of tiger parts and rhino horns in northeast India during the year were successful due to increased cooperation between TRAFFIC and WWF in India and Nepal, and the enforcement agencies of the two countries. This cooperation also led to the arrest of 10 poachers and the aversion of three possible poaching attempts in Pobitora National Park, 15 possible poaching attempts in Orang National Park, two possible poaching attempts in Manas Tiger Reserve and three possible poaching attempts in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. These preventative enforcement successes have opened a new window for dialogue on collaboration between the two countries, and between government law enforcement agencies. Landscape teams of WWF-India detected a case of tiger poaching in Nandhor valley within the Terai Arc Landscape and helped the government authorities in arresting the offender.

74
DOGS
TRAINED TO
DETECT
WILDLIFE

Customs agencies in the Russian Far East and China increased capacities to detect wildlife smuggling during 2011 with advances in their wildlife detector dog services. Dog teams foiled two smuggling attempts during Customs inspections in Ussuriisk and Blagoveshchensk in the Russian Far East. The Chinese smugglers were arrested and contraband channels were blocked. In 2011, the programme had a total of 74 dogs trained to detect wildlife.

Successful implementation of wildlife detector dog programmes in the Russian Far East and several States in India have led to interest from China's General Customs Administration. In November 2011, China hosted a wildlife detector dog training event for Customs officials from across China, with support from TRAFFIC and WWF. This new initiative has the potential to greatly improve wildlife law enforcement in China at key border crossings and Customs checkpoints.

The deployment of Deep Search Metal Detectors (DSMD) across tiger landscapes in India (Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand) has led to the recovery of traps set up by poachers for big cat poaching in key protected areas. The success has generated interest for employing this technique in other areas, leading to more demand for the supply of DSMD, both in India and Nepal.



Dr Dionysius Sharma
TAI Shareholder
Executive Director/CEO
WWF Malaysia

"The Tigers Alive Initiative has brought together all of WWF's conservation efforts on tigers into a single global coordinated action and has placed us as a key player in the global efforts to double tiger numbers by 2022"

Advocacy

In October 2011, China, India and Nepal agreed to collaborate closely to combat and deter the illegal trans-boundary wildlife trade, to improve enforcement capacity, exchange information, and promote communication and cooperation between China and member countries of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN).

In December 2011, China's National Inter-Agency CITES Enforcement Coordination Group (NICECG) was launched in Beijing. The NICECG aims to enhance efforts by China's responsible enforcement agencies to combat smuggling and illegal wildlife trade and improve the implementation and strengthen the enforcement of CITES in their country - and has prioritized tigers, along with elephants, rhinos and marine turtles, for action against illegal trade.

The documentary *On Borrowed Time*, won the top prize at Malaysia's Eco Film Festival and wider international acclaim after its release in July 2011. A collaboration between WWF Malaysia and TAI partner TRAFFIC, the documentary focuses on the poaching crisis in the Belum-Temengor forest complex of northern Peninsular Malaysia, which is detrimentally impacting the tiger population in this area.



REDUCING CONSUMER DEMAND FOR TIGER PARTS

The wild tiger population faces a real risk of further rapid collapse if the unbridled demand for its parts and derivatives fuelled by increased wealth, particularly in the booming Asian economies of China and Vietnam, is not significantly reduced. There is little doubt that in the short term, direct action to identify and apprehend poachers and illegal traders is of the utmost importance. However, without a complementary effort to address the persistent market demand that drives this trade, law enforcement action alone will be limited in its effectiveness.

There are good examples of effective approaches to address consumer demand and illegal trade, but overall they have failed because they were not pursued at a scale large enough to have a lasting impact, or for a long-enough duration to achieve measurable change. Thus there needs to be a re-calibrated, scaled-up and sustained effort to change the behaviour and attitudes of consumers of tigers and other illegal wildlife products.

TRAFFIC and WWF have taken a significant step in the process to develop new and strategic approaches to reducing consumer demand for Tigers and other endangered wildlife species, with a geographic focus on China and Vietnam. In November 2011, the “Creative experts meeting on demand reduction messaging for consumption of tigers and other endangered wildlife species” was held in Hong Kong. Various experts from the World Bank, Bloom Association, Ogilvy and Mather, Tribal DDB, the Global Tiger Forum, Wilkes University, The Guardian newspaper, Social Science Research Council Vietnam (SSRC) and the Biodiversity Conservation Agency of the Ministry of Environment, Vietnam, Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV), as well as a core group from TRAFFIC and WWF, participated in this meeting.

The experts outlined designs for approaches to address the different motivations of various target groups such as the business elite, high-level government officials, youth and local village communities.

The results of the meeting were compiled into a document to support national and international efforts to curb demand for tigers and other endangered wildlife, and will feed into the global support programme for demand reduction under the Global Tiger Recovery Programme. The TAI aims to use the strategy as a basis to support the development of a targeted demand reduction campaign with government partners.



Tiger skin displayed and for sale at one of the many retail outlets for tiger products in Mong La, Myanmar, June 2010

GOAL 3 – INCREASING POLITICAL WILL, COMMITMENT AND FUNDING

Helping to grow and refine this support is the highest priority of the Tigers Alive Initiative.

THE NATIONAL TIGER RECOVERY PRIORITIES ARE NOW UNDERWAY



Diane Walkington
TAI Shareholder
Head of Species Programme
WWF UK

"The future of wild tigers depends on massive, well-targeted action being taken right now and in the coming years - and that's exactly what we're making happen with the Tigers Alive Initiative"

Providing Steam for the Momentum

More than a simple declaration to save the tiger, the St. Petersburg Tiger Summit in November 2010 represented political support at the highest levels, and the will to act on that support. No other wildlife species has benefited from such a strong, high-level and determined commitment to their survival. Helping to grow and refine this support is therefore the highest priority of the Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI).

Raising Resources

On the last day of the Summit, each of the participants agreed that, in parallel to the rapid implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme, it is critical to raise the resources required to ensure the delivery of the commitments until their full achievement. The TAI has joined this call to action. In 2011, we immediately made funding available to the tiger range countries to hold their own discussions to identify priorities at the national level for funding and sources of potential financial and technical support. These National Tiger Recovery Priorities are now underway. In January 2012, the Indonesian government led the way by holding a meeting to further refine its priorities and identify possible new sources of financing.

Vanishing Icon, Vanishing Forests

The Tiger is an Asian species and perhaps the most iconic species of this vast and diverse continent. As economic and social development in Asia has expanded, the tiger has steadily lost its ground. It is ironic that the tiger itself is the species that has suffered under these developing "tiger economies". Today, up to 97 percent of its past habitat is lost. It now remains concentrated in a few remnant populations scattered across the continent. This has all happened before the rapid economic and social development in Asia that we are witnessing today. The impact of this development so far may well prove to be just the tip of the iceberg of what we can expect to see as the 21st century moves forward.

The Asian Development Bank¹ estimated that US\$4.7 trillion dollars will be invested to sustain growth in the region, in both the urban and rural areas of Asia and the Pacific, over the next 10 years with two-thirds of that amount required for new infrastructure such as roads and dams. The TAI is compiling a report on the expected impact of the future development of Asia and the role that the survival and recovery of the tiger can play as an indicator of the success of this burgeoning development, and as a leader in a future Green Economy.



Dr Ghana S. Gurung
TAI Shareholder
Conservation Program Director
WWF Nepal

"The TAI is an excellent concerted effort of our WWF network producing the results of tiger conservation in 12 key tiger landscapes of 12 tiger range countries."

Alternative Finance: the Wildlife Premium

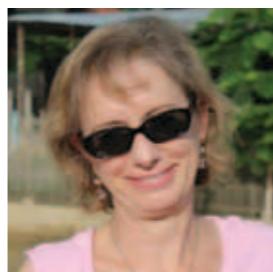
Traditional sources of finance such as donor funds and national and regional government budget allocations will not close the entire financial gap for protecting and recovering tigers. The TAI, along with the WWF network, are therefore seeking out novel financing mechanisms. The "Wildlife Premium" is being developed in collaboration with experts from the Global Tiger Initiative and the World Bank. This concept would work best with the finance mechanism for forests related to climate change called REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation). The Premium is designed to provide additional funding for the extra protection that the tiger would require above and beyond actions implemented to protect forest carbon sources. The Premium was presented at the Tiger Summit and has since been refined. A pilot is currently being proposed for testing in Nepal's Terai Arc landscape. Additional pilots for the benefit of other flagship species are being proposed in Kenya and Peru.

Paving the Way for Green Infrastructure

In February 2012, WWF Malaysia and the TAI participated in a Department of Wildlife and National Parks workshop to mainstream Priority Tiger Habitats in Malaysia. The workshop was held with the support of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme. Representatives from the tiger range countries of India, Nepal, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand also participated in the workshop and discussions on how to incorporate tiger conservation in governmental planning processes.

Topics discussed during the workshop included:

- Habitat connectivity through the implementation of ecological corridors
- Smart Green Infrastructure by means of planning and mitigating development projects
- Creation of a new transboundary protected area between Malaysia and Thailand
- Mainstreaming land use planning and the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan for Malaysia
- Private sector participation in the region through establishment of a wildlife trust fund by participating companies
- Ecotourism, institutional development, and supporting coordination mechanisms.



Ginette Hemley
TAI Shareholder
Senior Vice President
Conservation Strategy and Science
WWF US

"The Tigers Alive Initiative is one of WWF's most inspiring endeavors – it is demonstrating how the power of clear long-term goals and creative new partnerships can motivate not only our entire network, but whole new audiences and influencers"

In support of discussions, the TAI presented the Smart Infrastructure Planning (SIP) mapping tool developed by WWF-US with input from other WWF country offices. The tool is designed to incorporate tiger conservation into infrastructure development that will affect tiger habitat. The tool allows governments to assess the risk these development projects pose to the habitat and with the correct political will, develop tiger-friendly alternatives. For Malaysia, the tool's ability to assess how to best mitigate the risks imposed by existing infrastructure is also a possibility.

¹ Asian Development Bank (2008) Managing Asian Cities. Sustainable and inclusive urban solutions. Asian Development Bank, Mandaluyong City, Phillipines.

SIP - THE SMART INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING TOOL

As the “Asia Century” progresses, and growth on the continent shows no signs of slowing down, pressure on the remaining pockets of tiger habitat will only intensify. In response, WWF designed the Smart Infrastructure Planning (SIP) tool² to map predicted impacts of planned infrastructure development on tigers and their habitat.

Major infrastructure projects occurring in tiger landscapes include new road construction, the expansion of existing roads, dams for hydropower development, mineral extraction, logging concessions and biofuel plantations. The tool maps new projects in the context of existing infrastructure showing their cumulative impact on the landscapes inhabited by tigers. The tool visually and quantitatively provides insight into key questions such as, “Is continued development in an area diminishing the last refuges of critical habitat for tigers in this landscape?”

Infrastructure projects impact tigers through habitat loss, mortality from poaching and collisions with vehicles, and creating a barrier to movement for mates, habitat and food. Often, the policies around infrastructure development can be as influential as the physical structure itself.

The tool provides a means for governments wishing to incorporate biodiversity and single species components into land use planning. Outputs aid land use planning departments and development organizations in protecting their valuable natural resources by integrating ecological risk assessment into their decision-making process. The tool has been used to rank alternatives and can assist in selecting the option of least impact to tigers.

Malaysia is interested in mainstreaming tiger priority areas into the country’s development³. It has the opportunity to use the tool in mitigating the negative aspects of existing infrastructure, in addition to informing future projects within their vast tiger landscape. In the past, Malaysia has taken strides in mitigating the impact of roads using wildlife viaducts and forming appropriate policies around these structures. The SIP tool can aid in mitigation strategies, such as identifying the best locations for wildlife viaducts. It serves as a complement to existing efforts, and can provide the added dimension of focusing on a particular species like the tiger. Countries like India are also exploring the use of such tools in areas where there are increasing challenges of managing development pressures in tiger habitats. WWF-India is working towards further refining and adapting the existing tool to meet current needs.

Working with the WWF Program Offices, the TAI is continuing to seek out collaborations with interested governments in employing the Smart Infrastructure Planning tool within tiger landscapes, and advocating for appropriate policies around these structures to protect tiger.

² WWF 2010. *The Smart Infrastructure Planner: A Toolbox to Predict the Impacts of Proposed Land Use and Infrastructure on Focal Species and Habitats, Methods overview and Case Studies in Tiger Habitat.*

³ Cross-sectoral Executive Leadership Forum On Mainstreaming Tiger Habitats was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on February 20-22, 2012.



One of Malaysia's completed highway viaducts to facilitate wildlife road crossings.

GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS IN ACTION SINCE THE TIGER SUMMIT

Countries outlined their intentions to achieve overall tiger conservation in their countries, and contribute to the goal of doubling the global tiger population by 2022.

The St. Petersburg Tiger Summit in November 2010 was a monumental event for tigers which led to fresh commitments from tiger range country governments to step up and make the tiger a national conservation priority.

These national commitments were based on the delineation of a plan for each country, called the National Tiger Recovery Priorities, or NTRPs, which would fit into the overall Global Tiger Recovery Programme.

The WWF network and the TAI remain active in working with governments and partners in achieving the global and national tiger recovery plans. Under the plans, tiger countries outlined their intentions to achieve the overall conservation of the tiger in their countries, and contribute to the goal of doubling the global wild tiger population by 2022.

The tiger range countries have begun to put these commitments in place, and in 2011, some have had successes in using them to build a foundation for tiger recovery. Below is a snap shot of both progress and work that is still needed. As we celebrate

the success of these actions, it is critical to strive towards all the actions and commitments listed by the governments that are yet to be completed. Working closely with the policy personnel within the WWF network, the TAI will need to step up on interactions with government focal points to support them in the realization of their countries' commitments. Progress has been hampered by constraint in capacity for policy work under tiger conservation.

Commitments put to work

Russia: Commitment to amend laws to provide economic incentives to increase prey populations:

The Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology assigned the ministerial divisions to consider the issue of decreasing the rates per unit of hunting land in some Far Eastern regions. Current lease rates do not allow hunting estates to work effectively, and investing, for example, in activities such as raising ungulate numbers, which is critically important for tiger conservation, will be a major boost for Amur tigers. This directive, however, remains unfulfilled and lease costs remain high.



"The TAI has developed a tracking tool that will allow for a more systematic and comprehensive tracking of the commitments made at the Summit. The tracking tool will monitor the NTRPs and the GTRP, as well as a list of 'Asks' from the TAI."



Russia: Commitment to amend the forest legislation to protect Korean pine and oak trees:

Russia reinforced scientific grounds for the establishment of Sredneussuriisky refuge – a wildlife corridor which would allow the Amur tiger to move from Russia to the Wandashan Mountains in China. This process was suspended when it was found a logging company had a lease on the area. The Russian government has now taken the next step and ordered that the leased area be substituted with other plots which do not overlap with the territory of the planned refuge.

Bhutan: Integrate clear policies on Payments for Ecological Services to strengthen local communities into overall government conservation policies:

The Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation (BTFEC) has been developed and is currently up and running. As a result, identification of a dedicated fund for the tiger within the BTFEC is now a possibility.



Bhutan: Create a bilateral policy and memorandum of understanding between India and Bhutan for Cooperation of transboundary Conservation and Protection of Wildlife:

Partnering with India, the first-ever joint monitoring report was released for Royal Manas National Park in Bhutan and the Manas Tiger Reserve in India. Additionally, an Indo-Bhutan transboundary Directorate level meeting is scheduled for mid 2012, during which the two countries will continue to work on a Memorandum of Understanding for transboundary tiger work.



Cambodia: Establish a baseline for tiger and key prey species within the tiger source sites: Tiger prey baselines have been established in Mondulkiri Protected Forest.

Cambodia: Identification of suitable source site for eventual re-introduction of wild tigers:

Mondulkiri Protected Forest has been proposed by the Forestry Administration and is specifically referred to in the Cambodia Tiger Action Plan.

China: Introduce policy and legal backing for a conservation plan for wild tigers:

The State Forestry Administration (SFA) developed the China Wild Tiger Recovery Programme (CTRP) and launched it in July 2011 with WWF China's support. One of two Amur tiger range provinces, Jilin, has completed its Action Plans on Wild Amur Tiger Recovery and Conservation and is working on the Jilin Provincial Wild Tiger & Habitat Recovery Project Plan in Changbai Landscape.

China: Introduce a policy to improve capacity for conservation and monitoring systems, especially for local agencies, to ensure their regular and effective habitat patrolling, monitoring, and evaluation:



The two Amur tiger range provinces in China, Jilin and Heilongjiang, began using the MIST monitoring software to produce reports and increase habitat patrolling, monitoring and work in prey species recovery. The patrolling system was enlarged to cover more areas in the two provinces in 2011.

India: Committed to roll out the Law Enforcement Monitoring programme, M-STRIPES in six selected Tiger Reserves within 2012-2013:

Training of relevant staff and personnel in M-STRIPES has started in the first half of 2012.

India: Create inviolate critical tiger habitats, reduce human tiger conflict, improve habitat management, research and monitoring activities, support patrolling staff:



The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and the Wildlife Institute of India have in 2011 brought out a landmark report on tiger estimates from the country, based on the most comprehensive tiger estimation exercise ever conducted. Currently being carried out is the intensive Phase IV monitoring of tigers, co-predators and their prey in partnership with NGOs.

Government orders regarding the demarcation of core and buffer zones of Tiger Reserves are being implemented.

By 2012, the number of Tiger Reserves in India has gone up to 41.

Regional centres of the National Tiger Conservation Authority have been set up across India.

The central Government of India allocates between 40-60 million USD for tiger conservation annually. This does not include funds from state governments or other government schemes which also go towards tiger conservation.

Indonesia: Strengthen cross-sectoral program planning:

A series of cross-sectoral meetings have been conducted to integrate programs. A new presidential decree on the ecosystem-based spatial planning for Sumatra has recently been issued, and it is anticipated this decree will further promote cross-sectoral planning that supports tiger conservation.



Malaysia: Finalize the enactment of the new Wildlife Conservation Act and its subsequent enforcement:

The new Act was passed in 2010 and is being implemented.

Malaysia: Establish a coordination mechanism within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to monitor the implementation of the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan and the Central Forest Spine master plan. The Central Forest Spine is an important tiger habitat:

The monitoring of the implementation of these two plans was conducted in 2010 and 2011. The report is currently being finalized. A steering committee has been established to implement the Central Forest Spine master plan.

Nepal: Gazette the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) as a priority conservation landscape and ensure its conservation has a high-profile in Nepal's political agenda:



The government located four of the nine Wildlife Crime Control Cells in the TAL, with the others located in critical wildlife trade hubs, giving the TAL's conservation a high profile in the Nepal government. The cells comprise joint government-led teams made up of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Department of Forests, and Police and law enforcement agencies.

Thailand: Strengthen enforcement of wildlife crime under the Wild Animal Preservation and Protection Act to ensure that convicted offenders receive the highest penalty under wildlife laws and related legislations:

The Head of the Prachuab Kirikhan Provincial Government announced the maximum penalty for wildlife law breakers will be applied in his province. This was recently demonstrated in two cases.



Thailand: Develop policies on promotion, salaries, and social security systems for protected area staff and park rangers.

The Director General of the Department of National Parks announced a policy on an increase in daily ranger pay. Since April 1, 2012, the rangers' salaries have been doubled.

More urgent actions required

Cambodia: Designate an inviolate (free from human disturbance or activity) tiger source site.

The site has yet to be established, and the National Cambodia Tiger Action Plan is still in the process of review.

Cambodia: Introduce a transboundary agreement between Cambodia and neighboring countries on combating wildlife crime across the border:

A transboundary MOU was signed between Cambodia and Vietnam but the implementation mechanism of the MOU is not known to partners.

China: Introduce a policy to improve capacity for law enforcement systems so as to ensure market inspection, information sharing, and special joint actions.

The law enforcement system was reported to have no significant improvement in 2011. The State Forestry Administration issued a national notice requesting forestry management authorities in northeast China to strengthen patrol monitoring and take thorough snare removal actions to protect wild Amur tigers at the end of January 2012. Law enforcement is still currently being provided by NGOs such as WWF.



Indonesia: Develop laws to protect tiger habitat outside of protected areas in priority landscapes.

Though a Best Management Practices guideline for timber and oil palm plantations to support tiger conservation has been published, a law to protect tiger habitat outside of protected areas has yet to be developed.

Indonesia: Upgrade laws for arresting poachers and illegal wildlife traders and increase penalties.

The revision of the Natural Resource Conservation law is in progress, but has not yet been completed.

Russia: Amend laws to include stiff punishments for illegal procurement and transport of tiger parts:

Amendments have still not been introduced to the laws – Articles 258 and 188 of the Criminal Code of Russia and Articles 8.35 and 8.37 of the Administrative Code of Russia.

KPIs AS ANOTHER TOOL FOR TIGER CONSERVATION

In 2011 and early 2012 the Tigers Alive Initiative finalized a system for measuring progress in WWF tiger work including protected area management, enforcement, and combating illegal trade using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). As landscape staff move forward with existing activities and expand and initiate new activities, standardized data will be collected by the landscapes to track progress and gaps in our tiger work. The same data sets will be collected across all the landscapes, allowing the TAI to paint an accurate picture of how our work is improving over time in securing tiger populations.

The KPI system is linked to the landscape maps developed for each WWF tiger landscape. The system is ready for implementation and will be fully operational in 2012. The maps show where WWF strategically focuses its tiger conservation work. Each map depicts areas and corridors within a variety of habitats that tigers currently traverse. The maps communicate how each area within the landscapes is important for tigers, and how WWF can expand its work and support partners in doubling tiger numbers.

The KPI results are easy to represent using maps, making them understandable in a simple and clear manner. Successes (and remaining gaps) over time can therefore be visualized and readily communicated.

There are 27 indicators in total spanning the above mentioned activities. A few example of outputs generated by the KPIs include: the ability to track the number of priority tiger habitat linkages and tiger movement corridors that are secured and where human encroachment is managed; the number of Core Tiger Areas receiving WWF support to meet protected area standards and the progress these areas are making towards achieving standards; the number of Priority Tiger Management Units (TMUs) supported by effective enforcement patrolling; and, the percentage of priority TMUs where the tiger population is monitored using a standardized protocol tool. The KPIs will also gather available population estimates of tiger and their prey.



WWF TIGERS ALIVE LANDSCAPE APPROACH

Central to the TAI landscape approach are a series of maps for each of the 12 landscapes. These maps divide the larger landscapes into smaller management areas, called Tiger Management Units (TMUs). TMU boundaries are based on pre-existing administrative boundaries; such as, National Parks, Forest Reserves, Forest Divisions, Logging Concessions and Hunting Estates. Each TMU is classified based on the role of the area in tiger conservation, which includes both biological parameters and management goals.

This approach illuminates new opportunities for increasing tiger numbers to Tx2, as well as identifies areas to support to maintain current numbers.

Dawna-Tennaserim - Myanmar and Thailand
WWF Tigers Alive Landscapes

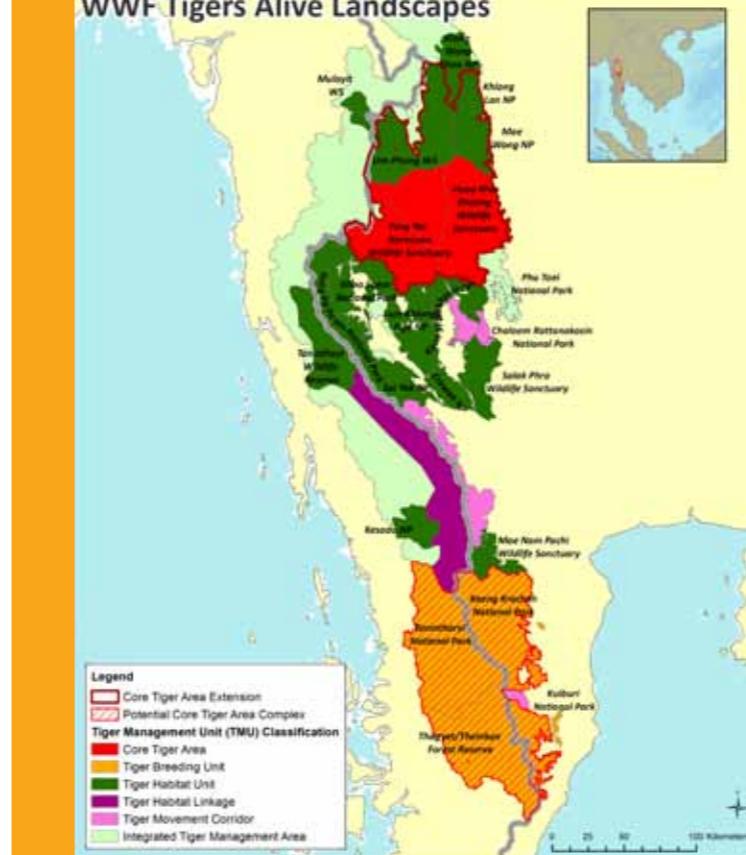


Figure 1: Tiger Management Unit (TMU) classification map for the Dawna-Tennaserim Landscape highlighting Potential Core Tiger Areas and Core Tiger Area Extensions



Figure 2: Tiger Management Unit (TMU) base map for the Dawna-Tennaserim Landscape



Figure 3: WWF Priorities for the Tiger Management Unit (TMU)s of the Dawna-Tennaserim Landscape

SPECIAL REPORT: TIGER WORK IN INDIA

The successful conservation efforts of WWF-India and its partners towards saving the wild tiger.



Corridors and Landscape Connectivity

Forest corridors connecting key tiger source sites are crucial in India, which has few remaining large contiguous areas of tiger habitat. Corridors do not have any special protection status and are threatened by a range of factors. A core focus of WWF-India's work on tiger conservation has been to protect and maintain the connectivity of key corridors in its priority landscapes. This includes working with communities to reduce resource use pressures within the corridors; conducting research and intensive tiger and prey base monitoring to establish the efficacy and role of corridors in managing human-tiger conflict, developing plans to restore degraded corridors and lobbying at the policy level to address major threats to corridors.

Four of the critical corridors that WWF India has been working in include the Kosi Corridor, connecting Corbett Tiger Reserve to the Ramnagar Forest Division in the Terai Arc Landscape, the Kanchanjhuri corridor connecting the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve to the forests in Karbi Anglong district in the Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Landscape and the Kanha-Pench and Satpuda-Pench Corridors connecting the Kanha and Satpuda Tiger Reserves to the Pench Tiger Reserve in the Satpuda Maikal Landscape.

The Kosi Corridor is under threat of completely losing connectivity due to the burgeoning of tourist resorts all along the Kosi River, effectively cutting off the Corbett Tiger Reserve from the adjoining Ramnagar Forest Division. Given the high density of tigers within Corbett, it is essential that this corridor is maintained to allow the dispersal of tigers to adjoining forest areas. Last year, WWF discovered that Ramnagar Forest Division has the highest density of tigers outside a Tiger Reserve and photos captured by camera traps show tigers using the Kosi River Corridor to cross from Corbett to Ramnagar, as indicated in the picture below.



TIGER AND PREY MONITORING IN 23 KEY SITES AND CORRIDORS

Tiger Monitoring for Conservation

WWF-India is one of the major NGO partners of state forest departments and the National tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for the Phase-4 country wide tiger estimation exercise being undertaken in source population sites and Tiger Reserves. WWF-India is currently involved in tiger & prey monitoring in 23 key sites and corridors within 6 tiger landscape complexes spread across the country. WWF-India also played a crucial role in the publication of a landmark report on tiger estimates in India along with the NTCA and the Wildlife Institute of India. This was part of the Phase-3 estimation where all tiger bearing forests in India were surveyed and tiger and corridor status estimated. This exercise revealed several lesser known sites where tigers are thriving due to sustained conservation efforts. These include areas outside protected areas such as Pilibhit and Ramnagar Forest Divisions as well as the Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary; the latter two having tiger densities that rival those of the best tiger reserves in the country. The baseline estimates generated for these sites are also being used to lobby for elevating the protection and conservation status of these key areas.

Supporting & Strengthening Law Enforcement

Tiger populations must be protected, especially in areas where tiger densities are high and law enforcement is inadequate. Areas such as the Ramnagar Forest Division adjoining the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) have a density of tigers higher than many Tiger Reserves. Unfortunately, the forest division staff are lacking the opportunities available to the CTR staff, who are often exposed to different techniques of wildlife protection. To address this issue, WWF-India has been working with the Uttarakhand state forest department to institutionalize the capacity building of the forest divisions' frontline forest staff. In collaboration with the Corbett Wildlife Training Centre, WWF-India has been training frontline staff on different aspects of wildlife protection. In Pakke and Dudhwa Tiger Reserves WWF-India organized capacity building programs on patrolling and legal matters for the frontline staff of the forest department and prepared them for implementing law enforcement monitoring.

Human-Tiger Conflict Mitigation

In India, where high tiger densities are often found in juxtaposition with high human densities, conflict is almost inevitable. Human tiger conflict (HTC) imposes a heavy cost on both people and conservation. While compensation mechanisms for the injury and loss of human and livestock lives by tigers are in place in all over the country, the process can be slow and cumbersome. Retaliatory poisoning of the livestock carcass, leading to the death of tigers feeding on them is not uncommon.

Unaddressed HTC can have more long term negative impacts by turning communities bearing the brunt of HTC against wildlife and conservation. Mitigating HTC is a primary focus of WWF-India's tiger conservation programme. WWF-India's Interim Relief Scheme (IRS) Programme implemented in partnership with the Uttarakhand Forest Department and The Corbett Foundation, which provides immediate cash in partial compensation for livestock killed by tigers, has been very effective in preventing retaliatory killing of tigers around the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR). Between 2006 to 2010, there were approximately 1000 cases of cattle killing annually by big cats around the CTR but in areas where the IRS is implemented, retaliatory killings have not occurred.

WWF India has also initiated an exercise to monitor livestock kills by tigers using camera traps. This helps to understand the behaviour and use of corridors by tigers. It also helps to ensure that the kills are not poisoned or burnt, allowing the tigers and other wildlife to feed on them as they move through a corridor. In addition to this initiative, WWF also works to address HTC through other means such as providing biogas as an alternate energy source to communities to reduce instances of women venturing into forests to collect firewood.

TOWARDS ZERO POACHING OF TIGERS AN URGENT CALL TO ACTION TO KEEP THE TIGER'S HEART BEATING

We are calling for “more and better boots on the ground” to stop the drain of tigers from critical heartlands and landscapes.

We can only reverse the tiger's rapid decline if we make an immediate stand in its heartlands – the forests, savannahs and wetlands where tigers live and breed. Poaching is the most immediate threat to tigers in these heartlands, and to achieve TX2, doubling the number of wild tigers, we must move towards the goal of zero poaching.



Dr Yury Darman

TAI Shareholder
Director
WWF-Russia, Amur Branch

“The World Tiger Summit in St Petersburg was the most challenging result of our united efforts. I am happy that the Amur tiger team and WWF Russia did their best to help the TAI for such a sound and successful start up”

“More, Happier and Better Boots on the Ground”

The Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI) is calling on governments in tiger range countries to make commitments, followed by immediate and measurable actions, in the heartlands to stop poachers in their tracks. The key to success in this ambitious endeavour is well trained and managed, motivated and resourced field staff working in critical tiger areas. Put simply, we are calling for “more, happier and better boots on the ground” to stop the drain of tigers from critical heartlands and landscapes.

Government, Partner and Community Commitment

As leaders at the historical Tiger Summit in St. Petersburg, committed to double the number of wild tigers by 2022, they also recognized that if we are to achieve this goal, we must act with strength and certainty, and make an extra effort to go beyond “business-as-usual” in our tiger conservation efforts. A robust commitment to ending poaching in the tiger heartlands is essential to its achievement.

Establishing a network of core areas free from poaching was one of the strongest commitments made by the tiger range countries in their Summit Declaration in St. Petersburg. As part of the Zero Poaching action, the TAI is therefore recommending the following actions as a first step on the road to recovery:

- Make tiger core breeding areas free from poaching
- Install effective capacity to protect these areas from poaching
- Monitor protection efforts and incidences of poaching in the core areas using new law enforcement monitoring tools such as MStrIPES and SMART
- Engage police and the judiciary system in the anti-poaching effort and create strong local deterrents
- Promote participation of local communities/organizations in the effort
- Meet the highest standards of protection and management for the core sites

THE TIGER RANGE COUNTRIES MUST AIM TO STOP POACHING WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY



Dr Zhu Chunquan

TAI Shareholder
Conservation Director of Biodiversity and Operations
WWF China

“In the past 3 years, the TAI, in collaboration with government, corporations, local communities and international organizations, was able to help make wild tiger conservation one of the top conservation priorities in the world”

The Next Steps

The tiger range countries will meet in the first half of 2012 to look back on progress from the Tiger Summit and plan for upcoming years. It is essential to intensify and strengthen efforts to move as rapidly as possible towards Zero Poaching if any serious attempt to meet the TX2 goal is undertaken.

The tiger range countries must put into action their commitments in St. Petersburg aimed at stopping poaching without any further delay.

WWF urges the governments to operationalise their commitments through five actions:

1. Identify and delineate the core breeding areas in order to put in place protection required to ensure these areas become free from poaching.
2. Install law Enforcement Monitoring practices such as SMART and MStrIPES in all identified core breeding areas.
3. Put in place sufficient numbers of well resourced, well motivated and well trained field staff to protect core breeding areas.
4. Create “strike forces” to accelerate and intensify protection for core breeding areas.
5. Strengthen prosecutions and raise awareness about deterrents.

The TAI in Action

The TAI is supporting the tiger countries' moves towards Zero Poaching through a number of activities and steps designed to encourage its adoption and progress. The special Zero Poaching page on the panda.org website includes the TAI call to action and details additional actions. The page is updated regularly, and includes a new film on rangers on the tiger conservation frontlines in Nepal. Additional ranger and Zero Poaching films will be released in 2012.

Teams in tiger range countries will be increasingly brought into the Zero Poaching process as we work towards robust government support. In Nepal, where the government put in place some of the key requirements for Zero Poaching, not a single tiger was poached in Chitwan National Park in the country. The Amur Heilong team in China are involving youth, pairing them with rangers and sending them out on anti-poaching patrols, after which they will report back and spread the Zero Poaching message.



AIDING TIGER CONSERVATION THROUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT MONITORING (LEM)

WWF has been a leader in the support of intelligence driven site-based tiger protection for over a decade in Asia. With establishment of the Tigers Alive Initiative, support of the protection efforts in tiger countries where WWF is working finally had a vehicle through which to consolidate lessons learned and expand upon successful protection models.

One of the most successful tools WWF has been able to implement at a diverse number of sites has been a law enforcement monitoring tool named MIST (Management Information Systems). Not content with the support and capacity of the software within the system, the TAI helped spearhead a drive to update and greatly improve this software. This drive resulted in group of organisations, with WWF as a founding member, forming a consortium to develop a new software tool called SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool). SMART is designed to replace MIST at sites where it is already being used. It will also be the tool of choice for LEM in tiger landscapes where WWF is working on enforcement currently.

SMART assists site managers to monitor all aspects of their law enforcement patrolling activities and will be able to analyze trends in illegal activities over time. It also gives managers and law enforcement personnel an opportunity to develop intelligence about illegal activities and therefore respond proactively to poaching threats.

The WWF TAI have been actively involved from day one in the consortium of researchers, protected area officials and organizations developing SMART. In 2011, the software neared testing phase. It will be officially tested in early 2012. As SMART develops and is further refined, the TAI will work with partners and WWF teams in our focal tiger landscapes to implement it and further evaluate its progress and effectiveness.

SMART will complement the M-STRIPES programme in India, which is being developed by India's National Tiger Conservation Authority, the Wildlife Institute of India, The Zoological Society of London and with WWF as a partner. M-STRIPES is the evolution of a monitoring software tool to which the partners have added a law enforcement component. WWF worked with the developers to refine the programme throughout 2011, and the TAI will help conduct the initial training on its application in the first half of 2012.



Landscape teams from various parts of the world (as indicated by panda symbol) have been trained by the TAI in law enforcement monitoring



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THANK YOU

The TAI would like to thank all our donors, the organizations, individuals and supporters whose generous contributions and support enable us to pursue our goal of doubling the number of wild tigers by 2022.

We also realize that this goal cannot be achieved without the added value of working with partners. The TAI greatly appreciates the tireless work and support of all our partners, within the tiger range countries and beyond.

Thank you all for your belief in WWF and our goal. Your strong commitment to tigers is what helps us make important steps towards TX2 everyday.

To learn more about the TAI and to help us protect the tiger, please contact us vnaidu@wwf.org.my or join us at <http://panda.org/tiger> or tweet us at [@TigersAlive](#).



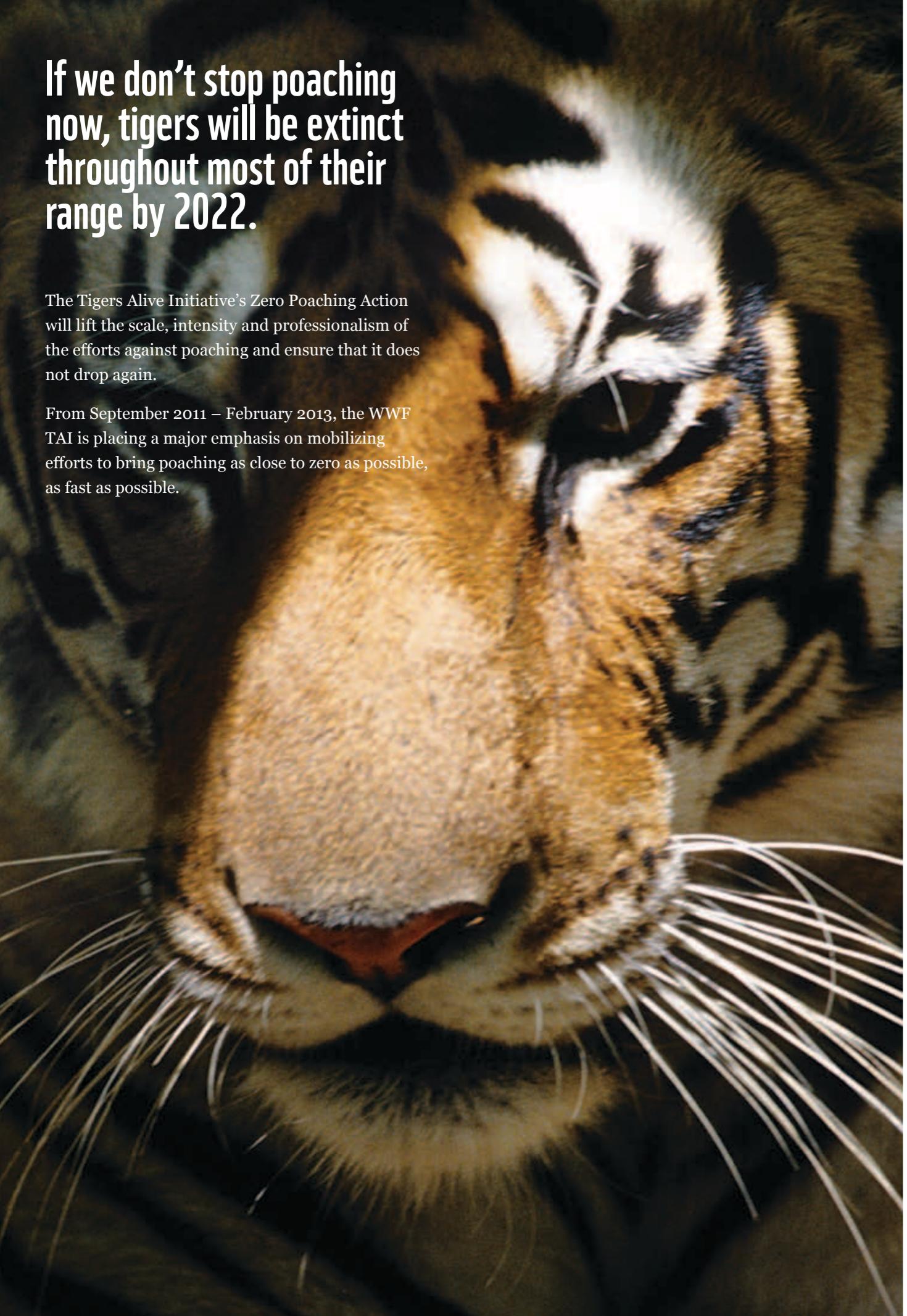
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“We want to see poachers behind bars, not tigers,”

*- Robert Zoellick,
November 2010,
International Tiger Forum, St Petersburg*

As outgoing World Bank President Robert Zoellick strides aheads and conquers new ground, the TAI would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Zoellick for all his support towards tiger conservation. Combining his twin passions of business and conservation, Mr Zoellick founded the Global Tiger Initiative (GTI) in 2008, with national and global partners, to help avert the tiger crisis. Under his leadership, the GTI has introduced various innovations, including the tiger friendly Smart Green Infrastructure, a Multi-Donor Trust Fund to support tiger conservation, and a pilot Wildlife Premium Market Initiative to channel carbon investment funds under REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) to wildlife conservation.

We wish Mr Zoellick the very best in his future undertakings and hope that we will continue to work with him to save tigers.



If we don't stop poaching
now, tigers will be extinct
throughout most of their
range by 2022.

The Tigers Alive Initiative's Zero Poaching Action will lift the scale, intensity and professionalism of the efforts against poaching and ensure that it does not drop again.

From September 2011 – February 2013, the WWF TAI is placing a major emphasis on mobilizing efforts to bring poaching as close to zero as possible, as fast as possible.

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Postcards & Poster

1961

WWF was founded in 1961

+ 100

WWF is in over 100 countries,
on 5 continents



+ 5M

WWF has over 5 million
supporters

< 3200

Tigers left in the wild