

A photograph of an elephant standing in a forest. In the foreground, the backs of two people's heads are visible, looking towards the elephant. The scene is set in a lush, green forest with tall trees.

Engaging a Global Community to Mitigate Human Wildlife Conflict



HWC CoP:
Community Launch
April 24, 2018



Introductions



Claudia Sobrevila

- Program Manager, Global Wildlife Program, World Bank
- Senior Environmentalist, World Bank

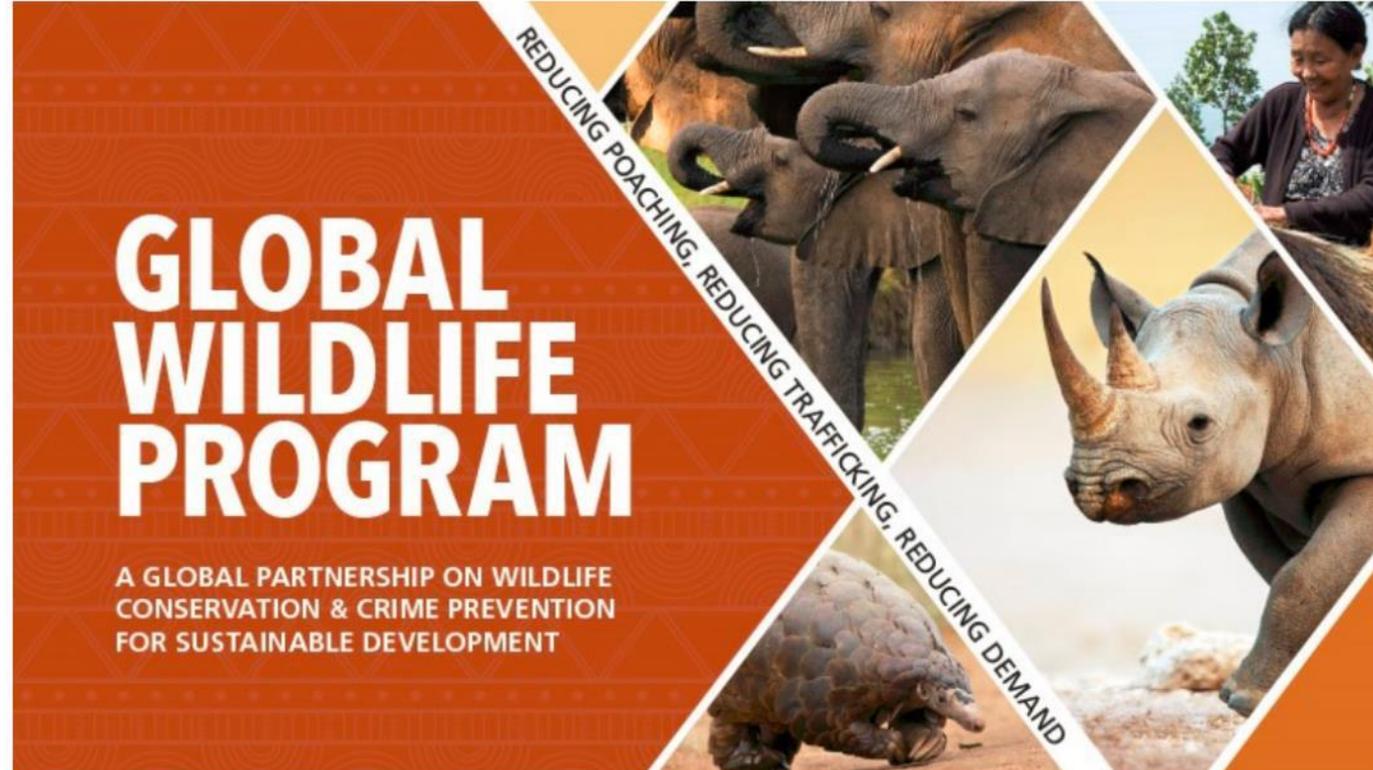


Alexandra Zimmerman

- Chair, IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force
- Head of Conservation Science, Chester Zoo
- Senior Research Fellow, WildCRU, Oxford University

The Global Wildlife Program

The GWP is a World Bank-led **global partnership** that promotes wildlife conservation and sustainable development by **combatting illicit trafficking in wildlife** across 19 different countries in Asia & Africa.



<http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/brief/global-wildlife-program>

The IUCN SSC HWC Task Force



An **interdisciplinary** global expert group created to support the IUCN network and wider conservation community around the world by developing **guidance, information, and facilitating lesson-sharing and best practices** for human-wildlife conflict and coexistence.

www.hwctf.org

The Problem

- HWC is an increasing and widespread threat (for wildlife and people)
- HWC is multi-faceted and complex (ecologically, socially, politically)
- Each case of HWC is different from the next
- Mitigating and preventing HWC requires interdisciplinary teamwork



What is needed?

- Interdisciplinary approaches & collaboration
- Guidance that focusses on principles & process
- Frameworks for best practice
- Ways to learn from each other



Three pathways for information & guidance:

1) Already available:



<http://www.hwctf.org/resources/document-library>

Human-Wildlife Conflict Resource Library

Latest

Parathian, H. E., M. R. McLennan, C. M. Hill, A. Frazão-Moreira, and K. J. Hockings. 2018. Breaking through disciplinary barriers: human-wildlife interactions and multispecies ethnography. *International Journal of Primatology*. [Download](#)

How to avoid conflict with sloth bears - a pictorial handbook (2018). (The Corbett Foundation) [Download](#)

Fraser-Celin, V.-L., A. J. Hovorka, and J. J. Silver. 2018. Human conflict over wildlife: exploring social constructions of African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) in Botswana. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*:1-18. [External resource](#)

Key Topics

Conflict analysis & theory	Social research methods
Political ecology of conflicts	Human dimensions theory
Behaviour change & social marketing	Compensation & other financial instruments
Monitoring & evaluation	Electric fences

Key Species

African elephant
Asian elephant
Bears
Crocodilians
Jaguar
Lion

Three pathways for information & guidance (con't):

1) Already available:

Human-Wildlife Conflict Library (publications, manuals, books) www.hwctf.org

2) In preparation now:

Brief Guides for HWC
& joint IUCN Guidelines

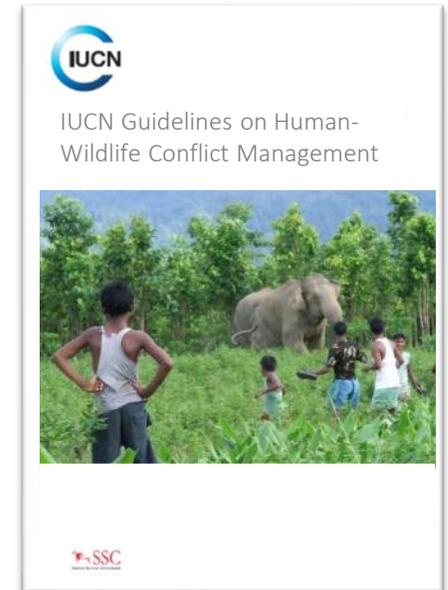
(practical “how-to” guides)



on key topics & in several languages

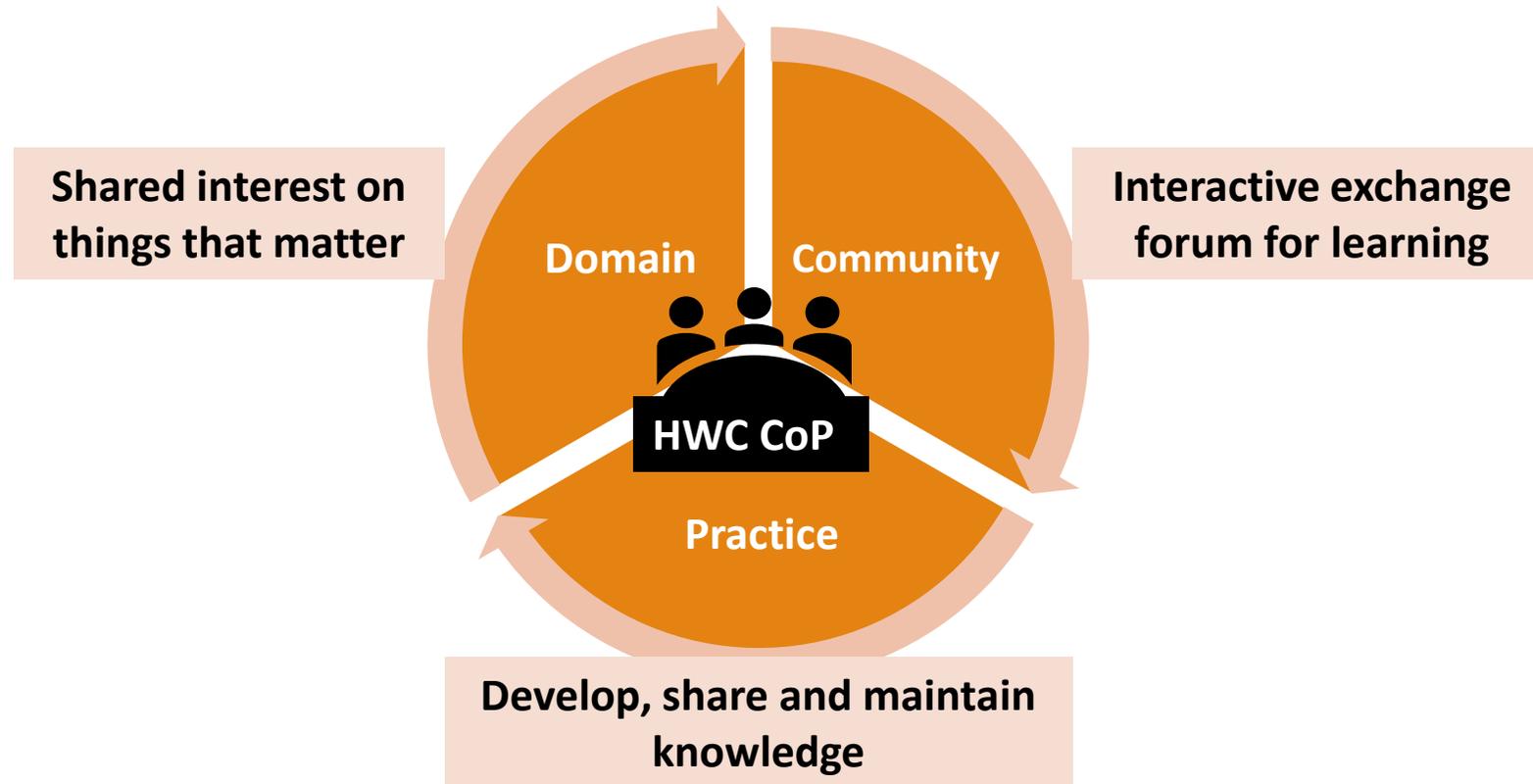
3) In planning stages:

Community of Practice for HWC (interactive exchange forum)



Community of Practice for Human-Wildlife Conflict - (TBC)

The HWC CoP brings together practitioners from around the world to share experiences and collaborate to develop sustainable solutions to human-wildlife conflict.



Presentation by Dr. Sumith Pilapitiya on Sri Lanka's experience on HWC

What do we mean by “CoP”?

➤ *“a gathering of individuals **motivated** by the desire **to cross organizational boundaries**, to relate to one another, and to build a body of **actionable knowledge** through coordination and **collaboration.**”*

– World Bank Group definition

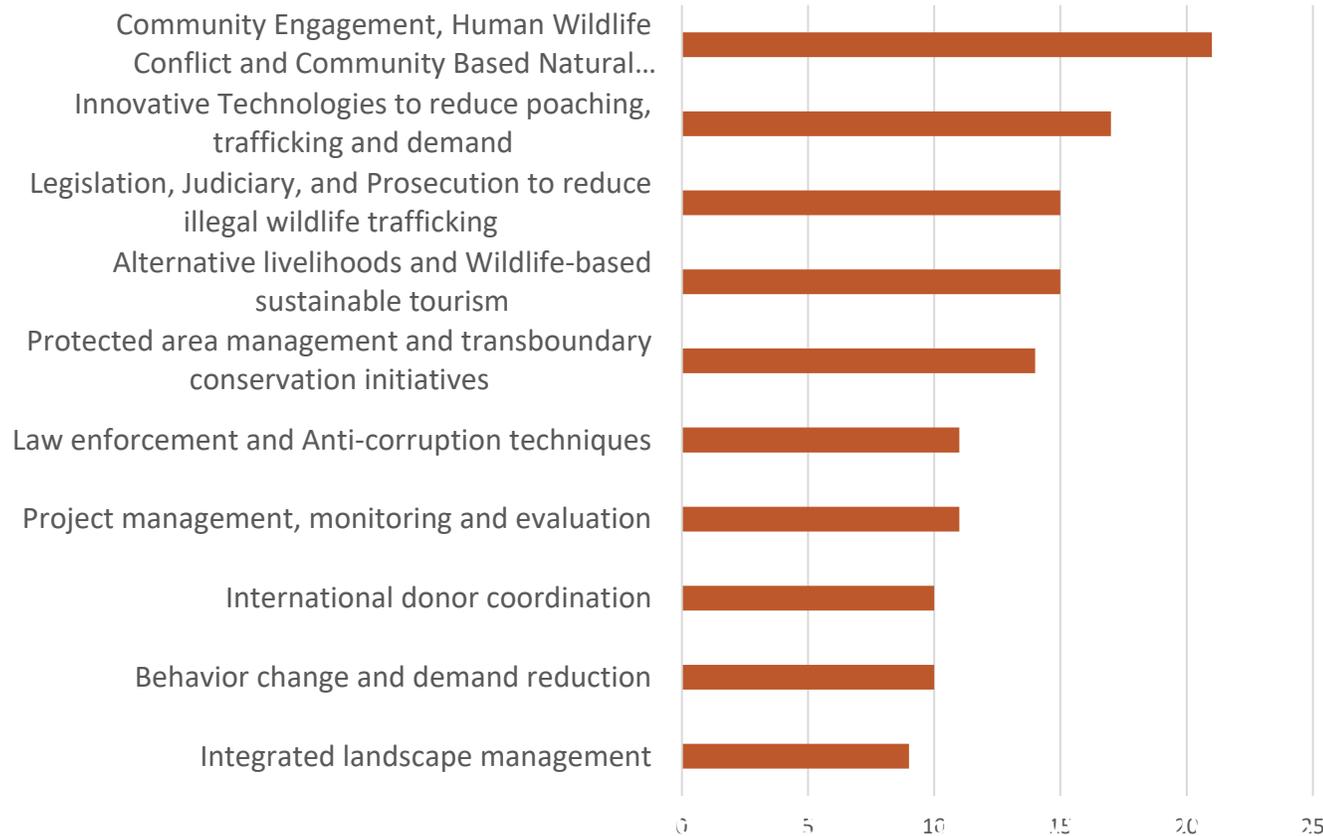
➤ *“a group of people who **share a concern or passion** for something that they do, and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.”*

– Etienne Wenger, CoP thought leader

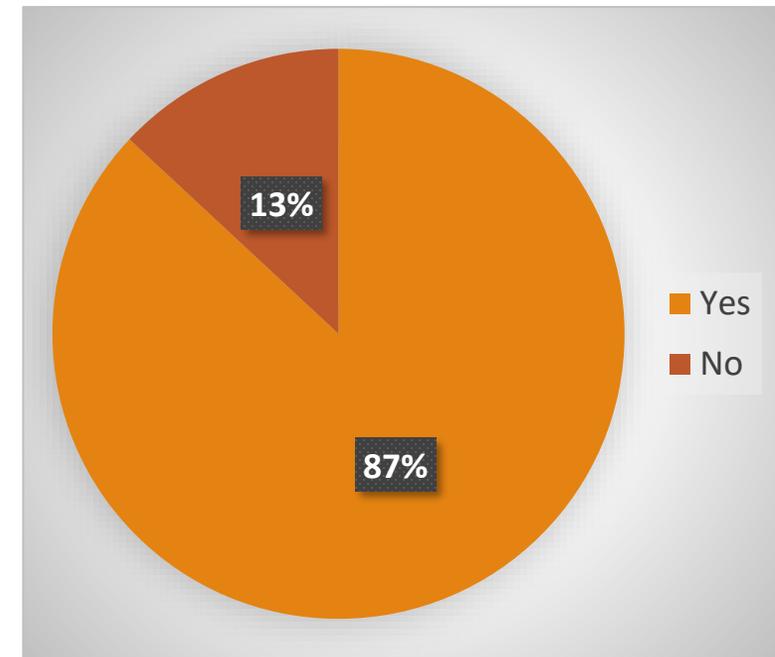
Why we see the need for a HWC CoP

GWP Survey Results:

Top thematic areas of interest



Whether a CoP is important for enhancing multi-stakeholder collaboration



HWC Proposed Community Charter



Background & Purpose

The **Human Wildlife Conflict Community of Practice (HWC CoP)** brings together practitioners from around the world to share experiences and lessons learned and collaborate to develop sustainable solutions to human wildlife conflict.

Membership

Government officials, protected area managers, NGO staff, HWC specialists, professionals of academia & more

Leadership

Led and coordinated by the IUCN SSC HWCTF & its Chair, with support from GWP community managers.

Key Topics

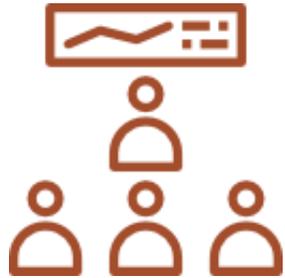
Understanding the complexities of HWC | approaches for political and economic aspects | practical interventions | patterns and prevention| stakeholder engagement & more

Potential Products

Dynamic virtual events | list of HWC experts | regular newsletter | trainings | online collaboration platform | digital help desk

Current and potential products

Virtual & In-person Events



Deliver training & capacity-building through in-person workshops & webinars

Content Library



Provide an online content repository to disseminate knowledge products. (Building further on the HWC library at www.hwctf.org)

Regular Newsletter



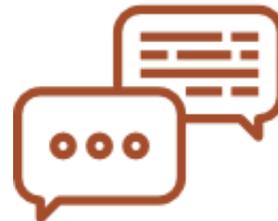
New and existing resources disseminated regularly by the community via email.

Digital Help Desk



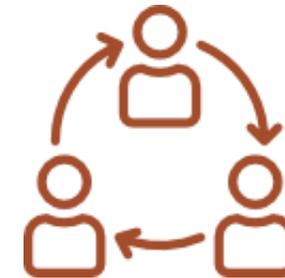
Practitioners can reach out to community managers with specific technical questions and connect with the right contact/resources to help them

P2P Knowledge Exchange



Provide a forum for experts and practitioners to collaborate and learn from each other

Expert Database



Build a database of HWC experts, contact information, and areas of expertise

How it will work

Implementation Phase:

Driven by IUCN, GWP, and Advisory Council

- Start with an organic approach: events, listserv, newsletters
- Conduct a *Needs Assessment Survey* and commission an advisory workshop
- Finalize the strategy and content calendar, including events and reports
- Launch an online platform to centralize all resources

Execution Phase:

Driven by community members

- The community is then in the hands of its members
- Tools to learn, collaborate, and exchange knowledge

Timeline to launch the HWC CoP



Discussion Questions

What (products/services) would be most useful to you?

How could we make these most accessible and user-friendly?

What else would benefit you?

What are the potential topics for Virtual Webinars?

Next Steps

- Hear from you
- Disseminate survey
- Build out content roadmap
- Gauge interest in an in-person training

