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Living with Tigers in the Sundarbans

Photo captions, quotes & background

This commission was part of TAI's 'Living with Tigers' report release.

The shoot ran from 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

The shoot took place in South 24 Parganas (district), Bhuvanewari (village), Kultali (area), Sundarbans, West Bengal and Nadia (region), West Bengal (state)

Assets collected were photos, video, written story

The themes covered are tiger conservation, climate change, human tiger conflict, livelihoods, alternative livelihoods, human tiger conflict mitigation, development, communities, gender

The photographer was Kolkata-based journalist Tanmoy Bhaduri

The production team was Formidable Pictures - contact kassia@formidablepictures.com

Commissioned by WWF-International (Tigers Alive Initiative) and WWF Asia Pacific

With support from Somreet Bhattacharya (Communications manager, WWF-India), Soma Saha (Livelihoods Coordinator, WWF-India) and Bonphool Honey Collective

Consent was collected by video for featured individuals, and can be found [in this folder](#)

Liquid gold: how honey is mitigating human-tiger conflict in the Sundarbans

Background / about

The Sundarbans, the only coastal mangrove tiger habitat in the world, runs from southern Bangladesh into India's West Bengal State. It is a unique ecosystem where tigers have become excellent swimmers and can swim from one mangrove island to another in search of territory and prey.

The Sundarbans comprises 102 islands. While 54 are inhabited by humans, tigers rule the rest. Every year, thousands of people enter the forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, where they are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles.

Wild honey collection is a major traditional livelihood for many. But being a mouli (traditional honey collector) is a risky job. While out in the reserves collecting wild honey, these moulis are vulnerable to tiger attacks. Approximately six honey collectors die each year in the Sundarbans due to human-tiger conflict, a tragedy that has led to the term "blood honey."

WWF India, in association with the Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve (SBR) Directorate and with support from Discovery Communications India, implemented a program to significantly reduce the number of tiger-related deaths of honey collectors. A pilot study in 2014 placed apiary boxes—or man-made beehives—in a designated, fenced area within the reserve to be managed by moulis with licenses to harvest wild honey. Results revealed that the wild bees attracted to the boxes produced nearly double the amount of honey collected from hives in the wild. The initiative was further expanded with support from Dabur India Limited to include and train more moulis.

Encouraged by the success of WWF India's pilot efforts, the West Bengal Forest Directorate, the Panchayat and Rural Development Department, and Government of West Bengal came together to scale up the project. In the forest fringe villages of 24 Parganas (South) Division—the region's second largest protected area after Sundarban Tiger Reserve—they provided loans to the community with the support of the West Bengal State Cooperative Bank Ltd.

As of today, around 80 honey collectors have now been trained and are collecting honey from a total of 1,400 apiary boxes placed in designated areas in the forest camps of 24 Parganas (South) Division and across the region. The moulis own and manage the apiary boxes and no longer have to collect wild honey from deep within the mangrove forest and put themselves in harm's way.

The collective can produce up to 60 tons of honey over a 3 month harvesting period in Sundarbans alone. Recently, in response to the short harvesting period in Sundarbans, the collective has now expanded to three other areas in West Bengal, including Nadia (pictured here) which is a few hours north of the Sundarbans. The hives are transported to agricultural land where they pollenate lychee and coriander fields, among others.

The honey is then transported back to the collective's processing facility in the Sundarbans, where it is pasturised and packaged for delivery. The honey produced outside of the Sundarbans is sold as premium multi-flora honey, whereas the Sundarbans honey is sold as organic mangrove honey.

The honey collected by three of the four cooperatives is under the brand name Bonphool Wild Honey. It now has its own website where the product can be bought, and is available online at Amazon India. It is being delivered across the country. The collective would love to see this product sold internationally.

Community voices: Mahua Pramanik, key contributor, Sundarbans.

Pulled from interview, Mahua:

"My name is Mahua Pramanick. I live in the village called Bhuvaneswari located in Sundarban, Kultali. I'm a housewife from a middle class family. I have an 8-year-old daughter who goes to school. I'm 33. In our village most of the families are Hindu. It's an underdeveloped area in Kultali, a small village in Sundarban. Here, the people work hard to earn their livelihood. The farm produce that we grow takes a long time to reach the city. We do not make much profit from it.

Some people depend on the river for their earnings. They do not make the profit as compared to the labor. They go through many hardships along with their children.

As it is close to the forest, during the winter, tigers come out of the forest. Last year during the winter a man was attacked by the tiger. His name is Shankar Singh. His wife saved him. Another man from this village, Sameer Tanti, was also attacked by a tiger. He was brought back to the village but died of his injuries. This is our life. Here in Sundarbans, we people live together with tigers.

My family members used to go to the forest to collect honey and fish. People who collect honey to earn a living, they are called moulis... but after seeing people were being killed by tigers and crocodiles.. now they depend on farming. Some men from our family go to other places to work. The women, mother-in-law and others make craft items to earn their living.

I was born here in Sundarban, I grew up here. I am a Sundarbans mouli. My husband is also from this same place. Our main problem was earning money. But now we are collecting honey the new way, and we get the money we need to live from selling it.

I, along with my husband and other men and women from the village used to go to the extreme interior of the forest to collect honey. We would search for the bee-hives and break them to collect the honey. The season was during the winter. Wild hives were not easily found during other seasons. It involved life risks. There were chances of human-tiger conflict. Storms and heavy rains would also make it difficult to sail in the river. We would take a very small boat. It was hard. When we went into the forest we would ask Maa Bonobibi to protect us. As she is a goddess to us, we prayed that we would remain safe.

Talking on the new honey collective:

"We are now marketing the product, selling it online, and it's very good that the women are involved. Now we are doing well. We are making profit and we do not have to risk our lives because it is much safer than the forest to install boxes in camps that are covered with nets and collect honey from there. We started beekeeping only in Sundarban, now we travel to different districts of Bengal for beekeeping and collecting honey. In those districts, we install boxes and collect honey from there. We started with a small project, but now we produce 60 tons of honey in just three months in Sundarban. We also used to sell our honey locally, now we sell it across India, online and on Amazon. 80 families are involved in this honey and currently 20 to 25 people have gone to other districts. Now that we are producing so much honey, we need a market to sell it to... Who knows, maybe someday we will become the best honey producers in the world.

If this type of project is extended, more people will benefit from the support, and that will also help the tiger conservation.

Quote on tigers & Climate change

Sundarban has plenty of natural resources, the trees, and the animals and birds.. Smoke from the factories or the pollution created by cars, we do not have all this, so I like living here. But the city is far from this place. The farms produce vegetables, fish and crabs and we do not get proper price, and sometimes, tigers come out of the forest... also, storms hit the area 2 to 3 times a year, there was Amphan, and the Yash. We have to face all these problems. The more mangrove we grow, the more it will protect us from storms and other natural calamities, and it will make the environment pollution free.

Our Sundarban is so beautiful because tigers are there. If tigers weren't there then people would destroy the forest by cutting down all its trees to earn a living. The environmental balance would be destroyed and we would face worse damage from the storms."



File name - DSC_2015

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council). "We are thankful to WWF and state Forest Department for guiding us to form this unique initiative. Our honey has already reached all over the country through e-commerce sites."



File name - DSC_2073

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council), a mother and a wife.



File name - DSC_9118

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council), a mother and a wife.



File name - DSC_9122

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38) and her 8-year old daughter in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council).



File name - DSC_9124

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council), a mother and a wife. Here she washes pots and pans in the small pool outside her home.

In action: Mahua and other moulis in search of wild honey collection in the mangrove forest

A number of Moulis, including Mahua, took us to the edge of the forest to demonstrate what traditional honey collecting looks like. It involves travelling deep into the forest during wintertime in search of large wild beehives. The moulis chant to Ma Bonbibi as they travel with their eyes and ears to the sky. Bonbibi' or 'Bandevi', literally translates to the 'lady of the forest', is - she is guardian spirit of the forests of the Sundarbans. Inhabitants of the Sundarbans (both Hindus and Muslims) have worshipped Bonbibi for centuries to protect themselves from the dangers residing in the jungle. She is called upon mostly by the honey collectors and the woodcutters before entering the forest for protection against the attacks from the tigers. Even today, they come with offerings of sweets in an effort to receive her protection from tigers and other dangers of the forest. This is because of the widespread belief that the demon king Dakkhin Rai appears in the disguise of a tiger and attacks humans. Using dried foliage and hay, they then light a fire, perform a puja (prayer) and use the smoke to calm the bees before they open the hive to collect the honey. Traversing this landscape is extremely challenging. The mud is often knee deep, the weather hot and humid, and to get to the interior of the forest the moulis have to travel by boat and by foot as they search for honey. Fast changing tides, storms and crocodiles add to the challenge.



File name - DSC_9505

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja (prayer), before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name - DSC_9515

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name - DSC_9500

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name -DSC_9534

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name -DSC_9549

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name - DSC_9559

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name -DSC_9563

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name -DSC_9564

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.



File name - DSC_9565

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The traditional honey collectors of the Sundarbans are known as 'moulis'. Here they demonstrate searching through the dense mangrove in search of bee hives whilst chanting to the goddess of the Sundarbans, Ma Bonbibi, to keep them safe. They then use hay and foliage to light a fire and perform a puja, before using the smoke to calm the bees.

Community voices: Mahua & her friends who are also part of the honey collective



File name - DSC_8929

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Ashima Halder (45), villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. Her husband is a traditional mouli (honey collector) in Sundarbans. "We get a stable income from the Bonphool honey collective. Initially, it was challenging for us to adapt with the bee culture process but we are confident about the life cycle of bees and honey production process." Her husband is travels across the state to produce honey.



File name - DSC_8920

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Pratima Naskar (50), villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. Her involvement in this project since the formation of cooperative. "We are thankful to Forest Department that arranged training for us on honey bee rearing. There are hardly any livelihoods available for us (women). This honey production process is totally environment friendly and gives us a dignified means of alternative livelihoods. Simultaneously this approach helped to reduce man-tiger conflict in the region"



File name - DSC_2083

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Pratima Naskar (50), villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. Her involvement in this project since the formation of cooperative. "We are thankful to Forest Department that arranged training for us on honey bee rearing. There are hardly any livelihoods available for us (women). This honey production process is totally environment friendly and gives us a dignified means of alternative livelihoods. Simultaneously this approach helped to reduce man-tiger conflict in the region"



File name - DSC_8911

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Pratima, Ashima and Mahua pose for a photo with some of the trophies awarded to the honey collective.



File name - DSC_2223

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38) wears a beekeeping hat to protect herself as she prepares to check some of the hives from which they are now harvesting their honey as an alternative to collecting it in the wild of the Sundarbans mangroves, where moulis (traditional honey collectors) are at risk of conflict with wild tigers.



File name - DSC_2225

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Ashima Halder (45) wears a beekeeping hat to protect herself as she prepares to check some of the hives from which they are now harvesting their honey as an alternative to collecting it in the wild of the Sundarbans mangroves, where moulis (traditional honey collectors) are at risk of conflict with wild tigers.



File name - DSC_9721

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Ashima Halder (45) wears a beekeeping hat to protect herself as she prepares to check some of the hives from which they are now harvesting their honey as an alternative to collecting it in the wild of the Sundarbans mangroves, where moulis (traditional honey collectors) are at risk of conflict with wild tigers.



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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Pratima Naskar (50) wears a beekeeping hat to protect herself as she prepares to check some of the hives from which they are now harvesting their honey as an alternative to collecting it in the wild of the Sundarbans mangroves, where moulis (traditional honey collectors) are at risk of conflict with wild tigers.

Action series: Mahua and her friends check on the hives.



File name - DSC_2196

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. She is also member of local gram panchayat (village council), a mother, a wife, a once traditional honey collector (Mouli) now also a beekeeper.



File name - DSC_2201

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38), left, and Ashima Halder (45) (right), wear beekeeping hats to protect herself as she prepares to check some of the hives from which they are now harvesting their honey as an alternative to collecting it in the wild of the Sundarbans mangroves, where moulis (traditional honey collectors) are at risk of conflict with wild tigers.



File name - DSC_2207

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Ashima Halder (45), villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She is member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. Her husband is a traditional mouli (honey collector) in Sundarbans. "We get a stable income from the bonphool honey collective. Initially, it was challenging for us to adapt with the bee culture process but now we are confident about the life cycle of bees and honey production process." Her husband is traveling across the state to produce honey.



File name - DSC_9756

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

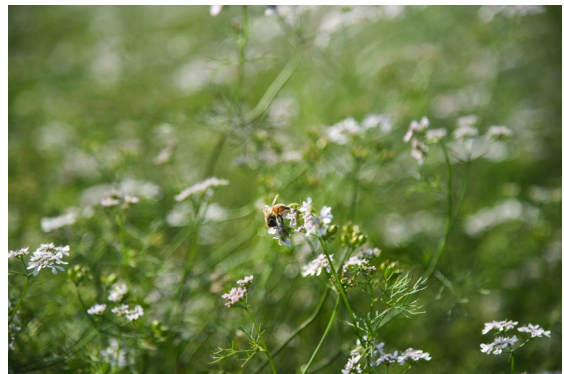
Description - Stacks of boxes transported from the Sundarbans to Nadia wait to be filled with bees. Since the Sundarbans honey collective has grown it has expanded to other areas of the region to enable them to produce honey year round, not just when the mangroves are in bloom.



File name - DSC_2248
Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International
Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022
Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)
Restrictions - none
Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India
Description - honey bees collect pollen from coriander flowers.



File name - DSC_2257
Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International
Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022
Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)
Restrictions - none
Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India
Description - honey bees collect pollen from coriander flowers.



File name - DSC_9769
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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022
Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)
Restrictions - none
Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India
Description - honey bees collect pollen from coriander flowers.



File name - DSC_2214
Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International
Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022
Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)
Restrictions - none
Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India
Description - Rows of Bonphool's bee hives owned by the Sundarbans honey collective have travelled from Kultali village. Since the Sundarbans honey collective has grown it has expanded to other areas of the region to enable them to produce honey year round, not just when the mangroves are in bloom.



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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022
Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)
Restrictions - none
Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India
Description - Dried cow pat is burned to create smoke used to calm the bees in the hives.



File name - DSC_2216

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Mahua Pramanik (38) burns dried cow pat to create smoke used to calm the bees in the hive.



File name - DSC_2217

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Mahua hands her friend the smoker before they head to the hives.



File name - DSC_2222

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_2239

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_2241

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_2175

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - **Location** - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Rows of Bonphool's bee hives which have travelled from Kultali village to an agricultural area a few hours north of Kolkata. Since the Sundarbans honey collective has grown it has expanded to other areas of the region to enable them to produce honey year round, not just when the mangroves are in bloom.



File name - DSC_2179

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - fresh honey comb.



File name - DSC_9641

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9647

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9671

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9685

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9693

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9702

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9706

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9708

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - The women tentatively remove slats from the hive to check the bees are healthy and productive, looking for any signs of disease.



File name - DSC_9603

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Rows Bonphool's bee hives which have travelled from Kultali village to a farming area a few hours north of Kolkata. Since the Sundarbans honey collective has grown it has expanded to other areas of the region to enable them to produce honey year round, not just when the mangroves are in bloom.



File name - DSC_9740

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Nadia, West Bengal, India

Description - Rows Bonphool's bee hives which have travelled from Kultali village to a farming area a few hours north of Kolkata. Since the Sundarbans honey collective has grown it has expanded to other areas of the region to enable them to produce honey year round, not just when the mangroves are in bloom.

Action series: processing the honey from the hives



File name - DSC_8993

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tubs of raw honey produced by the 80 families now involved in the Sundarbans honey project. This honey has come not only from the Sundarbans, but from 3 other areas in West Bengal since the project has expanded, meaning the hives are transported to other regions when the mangroves are not in bloom. All of the honey returns to this small warehouse and processing center where it is pasturised, packed and prepared for delivery to buyers across the country.



File name - DSC_8948

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A member of the honey collective waits for the raw honey to drip into a boiling pot for pasturisation.



File name - DSC_8982

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A member of the honey collective checks the temperature of the honey.



File name - DSC_8878

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Two members of the honey collective prepare a fresh tub of raw honey for pasturisation.



File name - DSC_9024

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua (in orange) and two other women in the honey collective jar and label the pasturised honey. As the harvesting season runs only 3 months of the year in Sundarbans when the mangrove flowers are in bloom, many of the families involved spend the rest of the time packaging the honey, tending the hives, and travelling to tend to the hives when they are relocated to lychee and coriander farms in other areas of West Bengal.



File name - DSC_8957

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua weighs a jar of freshly packed honey. As the harvesting season runs only 3 months of the year in Sundarbans when the mangrove flowers are in bloom, many of the families involved spend the rest of the time packaging the honey, tending the hives, and travelling to tend to the hives when they are relocated to lychee and coriander farms in other areas of West Bengal.



File name - DSC_8961

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mahua (in orange) and two other women in the honey collective jar and label the pasturised honey. As the harvesting season runs only 3 months of the year in Sundarbans when the mangrove flowers are in bloom, many of the families involved spend the rest of the time packaging the honey, tending the hives, and travelling to tend to the hives when they are relocated to lychee and coriander farms in other areas of West Bengal.



File name - DSC_9025

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A batch of Bonphool's Sundarbans Mangrove honey packaged, stacked and ready for labelling. Traditionally, 'moulis' or Sundarbans honey collectors venture deep into the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect wild honey as their livelihood. Here they are at risk of conflict with wild tigers and crocodiles and face dangerous tides and weather. The honey you see here has been produced by the local honey collective in the safety of netted apiaries in the fringe areas of the forest, as part of a project initiated by WWF in association with Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve (SBR) Directorate in an effort to strengthen livelihoods and mitigate human-tiger conflict. There are now over 80 families involved and the project has scaled up to producing honey in other areas of West Bengal when the Sundarbans are not in bloom. These families are making more, steadier profit from this premium, organic product, and for those involved, conflict with tigers is no longer a threat. The honey is also now being sold online across India.



File name - DSC_2022

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WF International

Date created -

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A batch of Bonphool's Sundarbans Mangrove honey packaged, labelled and ready for delivery. Traditionally, 'moulis' or Sundarbans honey collectors venture deep into the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect wild honey as their livelihood. Here they face wild tigers, crocodiles and dangerous tides and weather. The honey you see here has been produced by the local honey collective in the safety of netted apiaries in the fringe areas of the forest, as part of a project initiated by WWF in association with Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve (SBR) Directorate in an effort to strengthen livelihoods and mitigate human-tiger conflict. There are now over 80 families involved and the project has scaled up to producing honey in other areas of West Bengal when the Sundarbans are not in bloom. These families are making more, steadier profit from this premium, organic product, and for those involved, conflict with tigers is no longer a threat. The honey is also now being sold online across India.



File name - DSC_8950

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A batch of Bonphool's coriander flower honey is stacked ready for sale. This honey, though produced by the same collective and same bees, has come from Nadia - a few hours north of the Sundarbans. Nadia is one of the areas the collective has expanded to to ensure year-round honey production as the mangrove honey harvesting season lasts just 3 months.

Traditionally, 'moulis' or Sundarbans honey collectors venture deep into the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect wild honey as their livelihood. Here they face wild tigers, crocodiles and dangerous tides and weather. The honey you see here has been produced by the local honey collective in the safety of netted apiaries in the fringe areas of the forest, as part of a project initiated by WWF in association with Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve (SBR) Directorate in an effort to strengthen livelihoods and mitigate human-tiger conflict. There are now over 80 families involved and the project has scaled up to producing honey in other areas of West Bengal when the Sundarbans are not in bloom. Across the board these families are making more, steadier profit from this premium, organic product, and for those involved, conflict with tigers is no longer a threat. The honey is also now being sold online across India.

Community voices: members of the honey collective.



File name - DSC_2024

Copyright - © Tanmoy Bhaduri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Debasish Mondal (30) key functionary at Sundarban Banaraksha Ba-humukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS). He lives at of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. His family involved in farming and seasonal honey collection from Sundarbans. He and a few locals introduced others in their community of the Sundarbans to beekeeping with support from West Bengal Forest Department's Joint Forest Management Committee in March 2019 which created alternative livelihood opportunities for 80 families with WWF.



File name - DSC_2030

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Dipak Pramanik (52), a mouli (traditional honey collector) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans and a member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. He earns average 10-12 thousand rupees monthly from this honey business and rest of his earning depends on small patch of land where he cultivates seasonal vegetables. Before this initiative he used to risking his life to go inside the forest to collect wild honey and fish.



File name - DSC_2031

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Nirmal Mondal (50), a mouli (traditional honey collector) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans and a member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective.



File name - DSC_2026

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Manas Maity (55) a mouli (traditional honey collector) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans and a member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. He thinks this initiative has reduced man-tiger conflict in the region as well as ensured a living income for them. "Our income has become stable and risks have reduced through this initiative. More such initiatives should be introduced to protect both human and tigers of Sundarbans." he said.

Community voices: Tarun Kumar's grandfather

- Tarun Kumar Choudhury (40), new generation honey collector of Nolgora village at Maipith in Sundarbans and a member of Sundarban Banaraksha Bahumukhi Samabay Samity (SBBSS) and involved in Bonphool honey collective. He works mostly works on the technical aspects of bonphool honey regarding measurement of nutritious value and level of water and quality of honey. He began working for the collective after approaching a divisional forest official, who introduced him to the joint forest management committee, where he had further access to training on honey bee rearing techniques.

"My name is Tarun Kumar Choudhury. In 2005, my grandfather went to Beniphuli, beside the Boni camp, for fishing. My father, uncle and two from the neighboring village went with him to cast the surrounding net. When they were finishing up, a tiger attacked my grandfather. Grandpa couldn't keep his balance and fell into the river and the tiger dragged him away. My father and uncles couldn't bring him back. They came back, and again went there with more people and 4-5 boats, but couldn't bring him back.

See, I used to go to the forest, because I had to. Because I became part of this project I left the river. If I hadn't become part of the project I would have had to go to other states for work. I would have to work as migrant labor. In my opinion, more people should get involved in this project. I believe we should make more space for the tigers"



File name - DSC_9049

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tarun Kumar Choudhury (40), new generation honey collector. His grandfather was killed by a tiger.

**see full caption above.



File name - DSC_9050

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tarun Kumar Choudhury (40), new generation honey collector. His grandfather was killed by a tiger.

**see full caption above.



File name - DSC_2041

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tarun Kumar Choudhury (40), new generation honey collector. His grandfather was killed by a tiger.

**see full caption above.



File name - DSC_2066

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Jharna Pramanik (50), villager of Gour Chak village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She is mother of five, out of which four migrated to other parts of country for livelihoods. She said, "climate change has a direct impact on livelihoods of Sundarbans. As the numbers of cyclones, floods have increased in recent times, their traditional livelihood has changed." She explains that a lack of fish in the river and salinity of soil has pushed their sons to migrate to other states for livelihood. She lives with her husband and involves in rearing chicken and selling eggs.



File name - DSC_9085

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Jharna Pramanik (50), villager of Gour Chak village at Kultali in Sundarbans. She said, "climate change has a direct impact on livelihoods of Sundarbans. As the numbers of cyclones, floods have increased in recent times, their traditional livelihood has changed." She explains that a lack of fish in the river and salinity of soil has pushed their sons to migrate to other states for livelihood. She lives with her husband and involves in rearing chicken and selling eggs.



File name - DSC_9081

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Biswanath Pramanik (65), villager of Gour Chak village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He used to go inside forest for livelihood to collect honey, crabs and fishing but the situation has changed in last few years. He has a small patch of land where he cultivates seasonal vegetables but frequent cyclones have put his life into uncertainty. Last year he was part of a team responsible for mangrove plantation after cyclone Amphan hit Sundarbans.



File name - DSC_9074

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Biswanath Pramanik (65), villager of Gour Chak village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He used to go inside forest for livelihood to collect honey, crabs and fishing but the situation has changed in last few years. Here he feeds his family's only cow.



File name - DSC_9192

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - women sort through dried fish in the Sundarbans. Fish here is a critical source of protein.



File name -DSC_9194

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Manoranjan Tanti (70), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He regularly fishing in the buffer area of the forest and earns average Rupees 300 per day. His only son Samir Tanti was killed in a conflict with tiger. "He went to catch crabs during lockdown along with neighbours. Suddenly a tiger attacked him from behind, he was taken to hospital but declared dead."



File name - DSC_9188

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Manoranjan Tanti (70), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He regularly fishing in the buffer area of the forest and earns average Rupees 300 per day. His only son Samir Tanti was killed in a conflict with tiger. Here Manoranjan prepares dried fish from the creek with some women.



File name - DSC_9227

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Manoranjan Tanti (70), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He regularly fishing in the buffer area of the forest and earns average Rupees 300 per day. His only son Samir Tanti was killed in a conflict with tiger.



File name - DSC_9229

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description -Manoranjan Tanti (70), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He regularly fishing in the buffer area of the forest and earns average Rupees 300 per day. His only son Samir Tanti was killed in a conflict with tiger.



File name - DSC_9232

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Manoranjan Tanti (70), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He regularly fishing in the buffer area of the forest and earns average Rupees 300 per day. His only son Samir Tanti was killed in a conflict with tiger.



File name - DSC_9200

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Kartik Tanti (55), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He lives with his wife at a temporary hut in Bhabaneswari village. His mud house was devastated by cyclone and he applied for housing under disaster relief scheme but did not receive. His primary livelihood is fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans. Every day, he goes to river with his wife to catch fish and crabs. He still ventures inside deep forest for wild honey during season. His daily income ranges between rupees 200 to 300.



File name - DSC_9212

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Kartik Tanti (55), fisher of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans and his wife. They live in a temporary hut in Bhabaneswari village. Their mud house was devastated by cyclone and he applied for housing under disaster relief scheme but did not receive. Kartik's primary livelihood is fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans. Every day, he goes to river with his wife to catch fish and crabs. He still ventures inside deep forest for wild honey during season. His daily income ranges between rupees 200 to 300.



File name - DSC_9251

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - The wife of Kartik Tanti holds her family's goat. Her mud house was devastated by cyclone and she and her husband applied for housing under disaster relief scheme but did not receive. Her husband's primary livelihood is fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans. Every day, her husband goes to river with his wife to catch fish and crabs. He still ventures inside deep forest for wild honey during season. His daily income ranges between rupees 200 to 300.



File name - DSC_9285

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years. "People in these areas are always dependent on forest and river. Sundarbans is home for about a hundred species of plants and animals. And it has a rich biodiversity, it is not just a breeding ground for tigers." In his opinion, "we need be consulted before any conservation measures are implemented."



File name -DSC_9287

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years. Here he weaves a fishing net.

*See extended caption and quote above.



File name - DSC_9270

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years. Here he weaves a fishing net.

*See extended caption and quote above.



File name -DSC_9272

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location -

Description - Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years. Here he weaves a fishing net.

*See extended caption and quote above.



File name - DSC_9236

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years.

*See extended caption and quote above.



File name - DSC_9239

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description Basudev Barik (72), a villager of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He is a fisherman and fishing in the creeks of Sundarbans for last 60 years.

*See extended caption and quote above.

Community voices: Shankhar Singh was attacked by a tiger. His wife saved him.



File name - DSC_2125

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description -

Shankhar Singh (52), resident of Bhuvaneshwari village, West Bengal, Sundarbans. Husband of Jyotsna Singh. Shankhar was attacked by a tiger whilst out looking for crabs in April 2021. His wife was with him and she saved his life, but the incident left his hand paralysed, making it extremely difficult to work and support his family in what is already an economically vulnerable area.

"3rd April, 2021. We went out at 5 in the morning, to earn our living. There are many narrow creeks in Sundarban, you get crabs when you cast the net there. I said to my wife who was with me, 'now it's low tide, let's go and find a creek. If anybody has already casted their net, then we won't get any crabs. I just took four steps, and then heard a sound from behind. So, I looked back. It was a tiger and it jumped on me.



File name - DSC_2115

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created -

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location -

Description -

Jyotsna Singh (46), resident of Bhuvaneshwari village, West Bengal, Sundarbans. Wife of Shankhar Singh. She used to regularly go fishing/crabbing. The pair have a permit to fish within certain areas of the mangrove forest. But in April 2021 her husband was attacked by a tiger whilst they were out looking for crabs. Jyotsna managed to save her husband, but life has been extremely challenging since the event.



File name - DSC_9163

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - - *see caption on previous page



File name - DSC_9165

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - - *see caption on previous page



File name - DSC_9172

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - - *see caption on previous page



File name - DSC_9174

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - - *see caption on previous page



File name - DSC_9181

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - *see caption on previous page

General landscape and people



File name - DSC_9058

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A still day in the Sundarbans on an estuary of the river Hooghly. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9529

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created -

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mangrove trees shoot up through thick mud at low tide. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9473

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A still day in the Sundarbans on an estuary of the river Hooghly. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9528

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Mangrove trees shoot up through thick mud at low tide. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9495

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - a small house with a pool for raising fish and as a water source in Bhubaneswari village, Kultali, Sundarbans. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name -DSC_9255

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Fishing boats wait for high tide in a creek in the mangrove forests near Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal. Fish and crabs are a critical source of food and income here.



File name - DSC_9257

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A woman strides toward home in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. Either side of her are plots of agricultural land. Just 50 metres behind her is a body of water just 2km wide... beyond that water body is what is locally known as "no man's land", home to tigers and crocodiles. Tigers regularly swim across the short 2km stretch and end up in farms and villages.



File name - DSC_9097

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - a man stands beside his cow in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal. Families here predominately rely on agriculture and fishing to support themselves. Cows can represent a family's entire savings, often purchased when a child is born and sometimes sold when they reach adulthood to fund education or as dowry.



File name - DSC_9066

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A still day in the Sundarbans on an estuary of the river Hooghly. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9474

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - a still day in the Sundarbans on an estuary of the river Hooghly. Every year, thousands of people enter the Sundarbans mangrove forest to collect honey or catch fish and crab, and are at risk of conflict with tigers and crocodiles. The ecosystem serves as habitat to unique and endangered wildlife, and provides protection from natural disasters such as cyclones. This economically vulnerable area is also among the world's most vulnerable places to the impacts of climate change.



File name - DSC_9479

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - mangrove trees and pools dug out by locals to farm fish during the rainy season in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal.



File name -DSC_9223

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Children walk home from school Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, located in an area that tigers often visit from the nearby Sundarbans Tiger Reserve.



File name - DSC_9044

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - a woman outside her home in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal



File name - DSC_9291

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A mother and child walk home from school in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. Either side of her are plots of agricultural land. Just 50 metres behind her is a body of water just 2km wide... beyond that water body is what is locally known as "no man's land", home to tigers and crocodiles. Tigers regularly swim across the short 2km stretch and end up in farms and villages.



File name - DSC_9484

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A fisherman's boat painted for religious reasons waits for high tide on a dry creek. Many people here rely on fish and crabs as a means of earning a living.



File name - DSC_9487

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A fisherman's boat painted for religious reasons waits for high tide on a dry creek. Many people here rely on fish and crabs as a means of earning a living.



File name - DSC_9491

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - a woman carries a pot to collect water in Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal.

Action series: fishing in the creeks of the Sundarbans



File name - DSC_9300

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans. He catches fish and crabs and fishes in creeks of Sundarbans.



File name - DSC_9303

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans travels with his family, as he does on a daily basis, to collect crabs and fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name - DSC_9325

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - A fisherman travels along one of the creeks near Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal. Here many people rely on the tidal creeks for their livelihoods.



File name - DSC_9366

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name - DSC_9409

Copyright - © Tanmoy Badhuri / WWF International

Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name - DSC_9414

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name -DSC_9423

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name - DSC_9428

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.



File name - DSC_9443

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Date created - 8.02.2022 - 11.02.2022

Consent - See video link (consent given in local language)

Restrictions - none

Location - Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans, West Bengal

Description - Tapas Baidya (40) of Bhubaneswari village at Kultali in Sundarbans casts his net, as he does on a daily basis, to collect fish in one of the creeks near to the village in an area that tigers frequent.