



**Integrated
Tiger Habitat
Conservation
Programme
(ITHCP)**

About ITHCP

Launched in 2014, the Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme (ITHCP) is the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s **flagship tiger initiative** and a multi-country **grant-making programme**. It is funded by the German Cooperation (BMZ) through KfW Development Bank and supports practical, science-based conservation across priority landscapes in Asia.

ITHCP works with governments, international and national NGOs, research institutions, Indigenous Peoples and local communities to protect species, improve habitat management and connectivity, and support sustainable livelihoods for people living alongside tigers.

Across its projects, ITHCP enables locally led solutions tailored to ecological and social contexts at landscape scale. By aligning diverse partners around shared goals and drawing on the expertise of the **IUCN Species Survival Commission**, it supports long-term tiger recovery through integrated approaches that benefit both nature and people.

ITHCP contributes to the **Global Tiger Recovery Programme** and supports global commitments including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Why tigers matter

Tigers are **apex predators and umbrella species**.

Protecting them helps conserve entire ecosystems and the many species that depend on them. Their presence signals healthy, functioning landscapes.

Tiger habitats range from tropical forests and mangroves to mountain ecosystems. These landscapes store large amounts of carbon, regulate water systems and strengthen resilience to climate change.

Tiger landscapes are equally vital for people. They provide freshwater, food security, and income opportunities for millions.

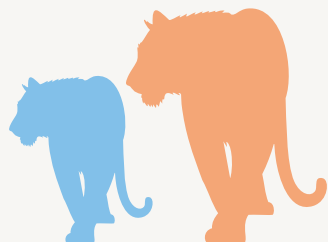
While their deep cultural and spiritual value have shaped communities for generations.

Yet tigers now occupy less than 7% of their historic range and are listed as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Their decline reflects wider pressures, including habitat loss and fragmentation, poaching, illegal wildlife trade, human–wildlife conflict and climate change.

Conserving tigers offers a clear pathway to address broader biodiversity loss and sustainability challenges at scale.

ITHCP impact at a glance

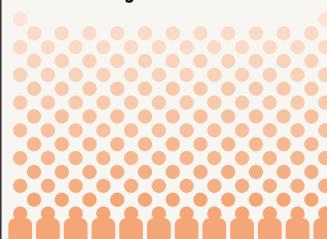
Contributed to the estimated
40%
increase in tiger
numbers globally
between 2015 and 2022



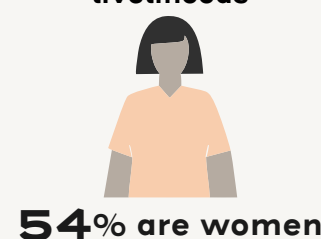
12,000+ ha
of habitat restored
or under conservation
management



12,500+
people trained
to strengthen law
enforcement and improve
the management of
tiger habitats



107,000+
people benefitted
from development of
sustainable
livelihoods



744,000+
people
reached through awareness
raising activities



Our approach

ITHCP delivers impact through an integrated approach linking species conservation, habitat protection and human well-being



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Protecting species:

ITHCP strengthens anti-poaching efforts, wildlife monitoring and human-wildlife conflict mitigation to protect tigers and their prey.

Preserving habitats:

The programme supports the management and restoration of protected areas, buffer zones and ecological corridors to maintain connected tiger landscapes.

Supporting people:

ITHCP works with Indigenous Peoples and local communities to promote sustainable livelihoods and rights-based conservation, strengthening long-term coexistence between people and wildlife.

Through ITHCP, IUCN supports implementing partners with **capacity development opportunities** and resources to strengthen the long-term effectiveness of their conservation work.

All interventions are guided by **IUCN's environmental and social management system**, ensuring risks are identified and managed and that activities meet robust environmental and social standards.



Where we work

ITHCP supports projects across seven tiger range countries

Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Indonesia
Myanmar
Nepal
Thailand

The programme focuses on **critical tiger conservation landscapes**, including the Terai Arc, Sundarbans, Dawna Tenasserim landscape, Sumatra and Greater Manas, among others.

Across these diverse contexts, many projects operate across national borders or support **transboundary collaboration**, recognising that effective tiger conservation often depends on coordinated action across shared landscapes.

What ITHCP supports

ITHCP supports a wide range of interventions designed to address the key threats facing tigers and their habitats



© Ota Jennersten, WWF

Monitoring tigers and their prey:

Supporting robust monitoring through camera-trap surveys and other techniques to assess population dynamics and inform decision-making at national and site levels.

Addressing poaching and illegal trade:

Strengthening ranger capacity, patrol effectiveness and collaboration with communities to reduce poaching and illegal activities, while ensuring appropriate safeguards and safety protocols.

Promoting human-wildlife coexistence:

Implementing prevention and response measures such as rapid response teams, predator-proof corrals, early warning systems and compensation mechanisms.

Managing protected and conserved areas effectively:

Supporting the development of management plans and the use of assessment tools to improve management effectiveness.

Protecting, restoring and connecting habitats:

Investing in ecological corridors, habitat restoration and improved management for improved connectivity, ecological integrity and resilience to climate change.

Engaging Indigenous Peoples and local communities:

Supporting participatory planning, locally appropriate governance and community-led initiatives that strengthen ownership and stewardship.

Promoting sustainable use of natural resources and alternative livelihoods:

Supporting approaches that reduce pressure on habitats while strengthening community resilience, including alternatives to firewood, improved livestock management and diversified income sources.

Raising awareness about tiger conservation:

Delivering targeted awareness activities to build long-term support and foster a sense of responsibility and pride.

Protecting tigers means protecting ecosystems, communities and their heritage.

ITHCP invites governments, donors, NGOs and communities to join forces in building a future where tigers continue to thrive in the wild.



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KfW