

1. THEME : Local actors - Michel de Garine-Wichatitsky

Question 1 : What was the main local actor with whom you interacted during your project?

Responses listed included

- Village communities, occupational groups (dog owners, poultry farmers, boat owners, waste pickers, hunters wildlife farmers, cattle owners, 'Mahouts')
- Local authority representatives (local wildlife authorities), and national authorities (Ministry of Environment, CDC, DoH)
- National universities

Question 2: What was the main issue faced in engaging and working with the local actors?

Responses included:

- Language/translation ; Communication with local actors
- Participation ; Access to sampling sites/samples from individual ; Legitimacy
- Bureaucracy : lengthy and complicated permits issuing procedures, access to documents, identify relevant actors and relevant procedures for permit application, conflicts between ministries over competence for wildlife
- Knowledge and data sharing

Question 3: Solutions adopted, or recommendations for future projects, to overcome the issues listed

Responses listed included

- Field research implementation by national research partners, adopt participatory approach, strictly adhere to ethical permit procedures,
- Socialise/engage friendly with community, build trust, develop local partnership, build local capacities, long-term projects, establish personal and institutional links with local authorities (DVS)

Observations of the recurring themes mentioned	Proposition for future research, next step for OHSEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language ; Communication with local actors • Bureaucracy from authorities and confusion on authority line; • Low level of engagement from local people; Legitimacy ; Identifying relevant actors and relevant procedures for permit application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with national/local partners ; strictly adhere to ethical permit procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialise/engage friendly with community, build • Better upstream information and planning • Need time to gather information, insights, build trust & partnerships, refine research

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of readiness for collaboration with other partners ; Access to sampling sites/samples from individual• Compliance of Nagoya protocol and guidelines on handling wildlife• Missing critical research <p>question ; Knowledge and data sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender	<p>questions and protocols ; Short-term projects are usually not suitable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi-dimensional partnership and engagement: authorities, collaboration from partners (agencies, other research groups), local people (animal owners, farmers, boat owners, waste pickers, local community...)
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