



Breeding Status of Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayansis* for a decade in Baitadi District, Nepal

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Ecological importance:

ecosystem balance/services



1 Vulture is worth over \$11000-carcass cleaning

Vulture and Culture



Jatayu in 'Ramayana'



Sky-burials in trans-Himalaya

Past Population

1980s population:

India = approx. 30-40 million pairs

Nepal = approx. 1-1.16 million individuals

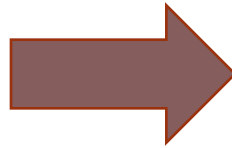


Current population < 20,000 individuals

Nine species in Nepal

Species	Population	Nepal Status	Global Status
White-rumped Vulture <i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	<2000	CR	CR
Slender-billed Vulture <i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>	50-75	CR	CR
Indian Vulture <i>Gyps indicus</i>	-	<i>Not Assessed</i>	CR
Red-headed Vulture <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	200-400	EN	CR
Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	300-1000	VU	EN
Himalayan Griffon <i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	<10000	VU	NT
Cinereous Vulture <i>Aegypius monachus</i>	60-100	EN	NT
Bearded Vulture <i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	<500	VU	NT
Griffon Vulture <i>Gyps fulvus</i>	-	DD	LC

Main cause for decline: Diclofenac



Pain Killer



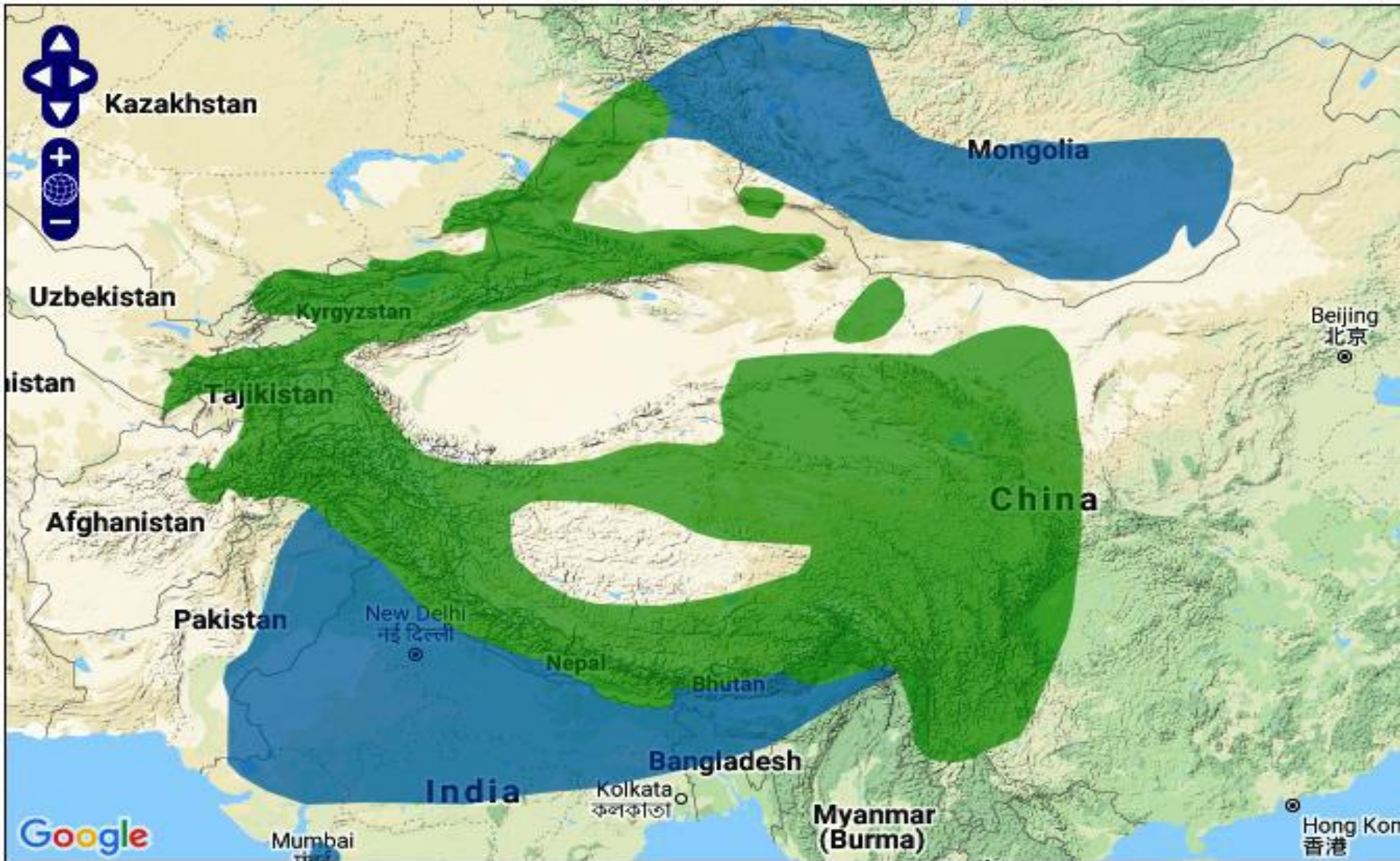
Killer-renal failure

Conservation Response

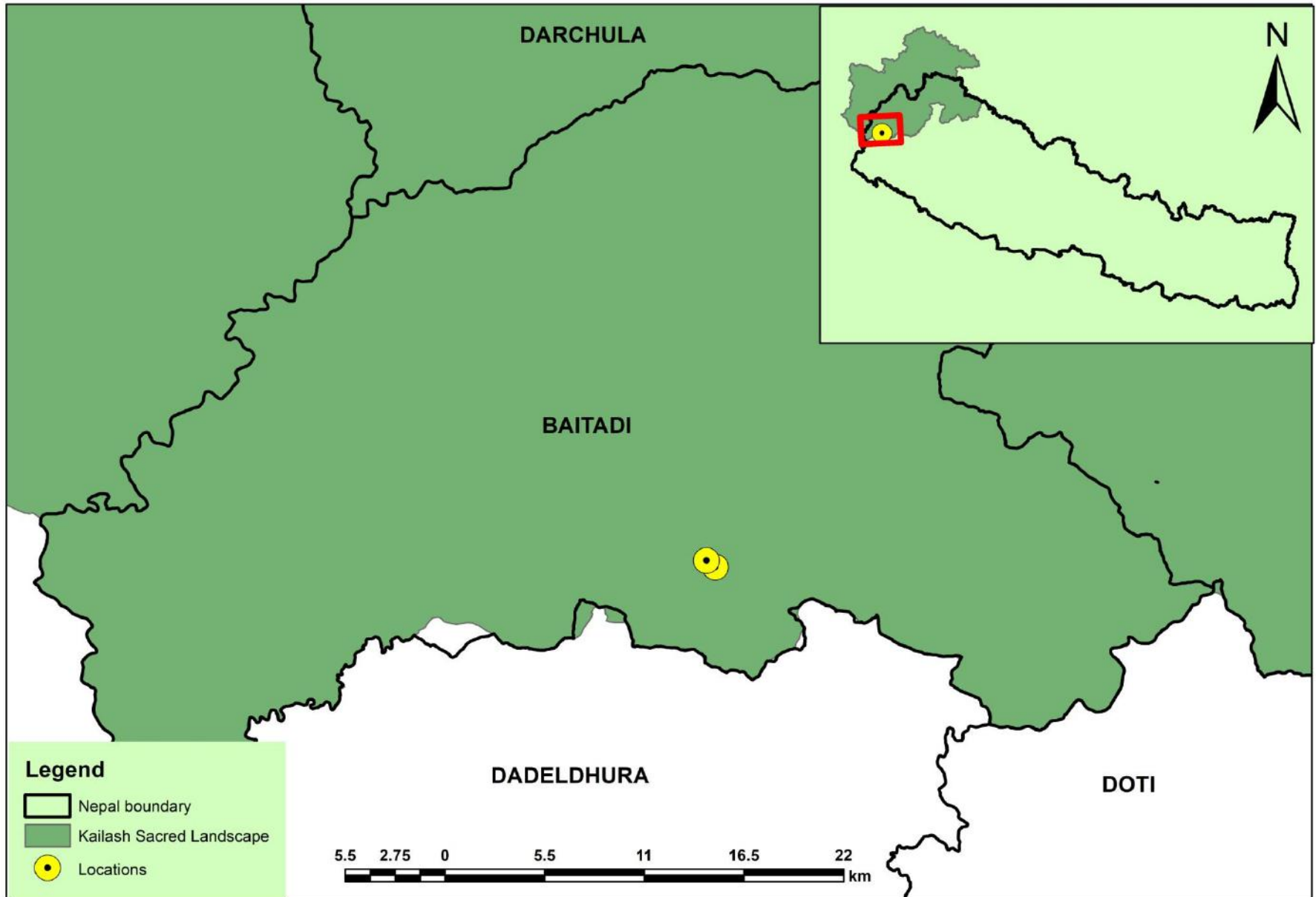
- **Guideline -Vulture Conservation Action Plan (2009-13 and 2015-19)**
- **Removal of Diclofenac and Meloxicam Promotion**
- **Community Managed *Jatayu Restaurant* and Participatory Conservation.**
- **Awareness and Advocacy.**
- **Pharmacy Monitoring (undercover & open)**
- **Diclofenac-free zones - at district level; later evolved 'Vulture Safe Zones'.**
- **Captive Breeding Program (VCBC and Release)**
- **Annual surveys of vultures (colony monitoring and road transects)**
- **Satellite tag study on captive release and wild vultures**



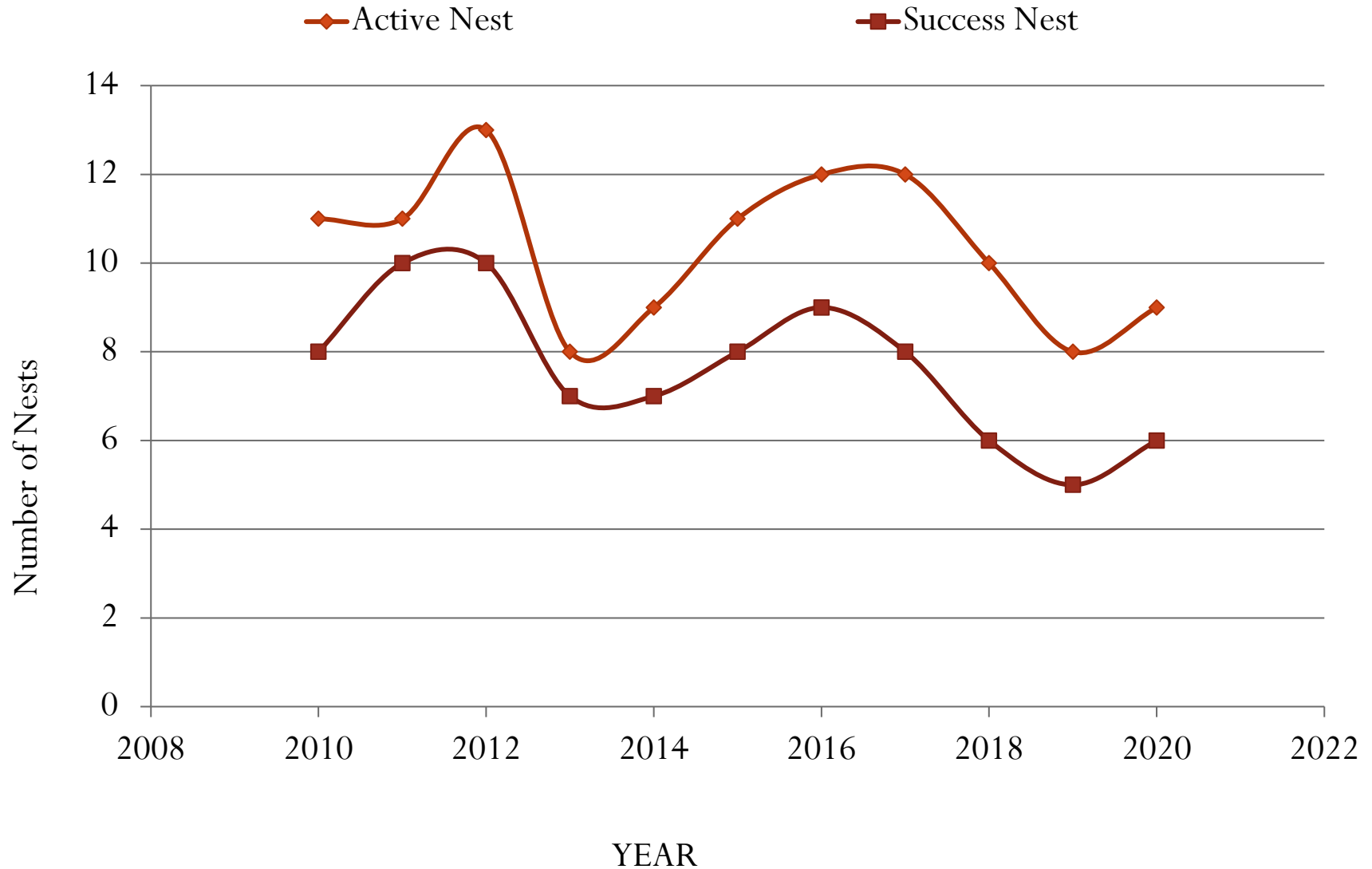
Himalayan Griffon-Distribution



Study Area

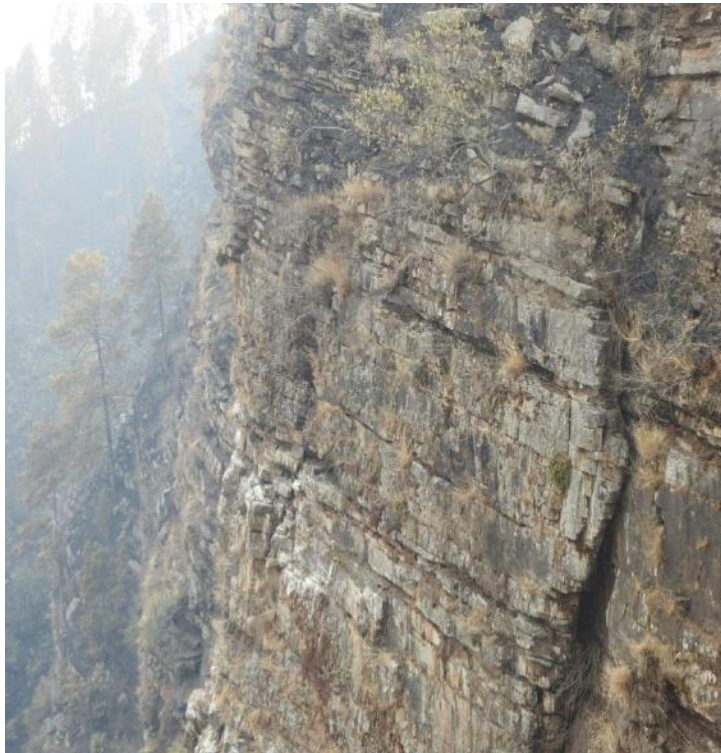


Breeding Status of Himalayan Griffon



Threats/Challenges

- Use of Vulture toxic drugs on livestock treatment
- Carcass Poisoning
- Electrocution
- People Persecution.
- Forest Fire



Research/Conservation Gaps

- Need to explore the nesting site and monitoring of four resident vulture species in Kailash Sacred Landscape.
- Study about Ethno-Vulture relation in the area.
- Awareness-Advocacy.
- Site specific conservation plan.
- People participation and compensation.





Thank You

