

# Approaches to Human-Wildlife Conflict Management in and around Chebera-Churchura National Park, Southern Ethiopia

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## ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to investigate Approaches to Human-Wildlife Conflict Management in and around Chebera-Churchura National Park, Ethiopia. Three hundred semi-structured interviews and various focus group discussions were conducted. About 12 carnivores, 6 herbivores and 2 primate species were posing significant human-wildlife conflict. High level of conflict was observed in Agare, Koisha and Churchura which are very close to the park. The conflict was severe during the mid night and the peak time like morning and night where livestock go to the field and return to their home. All of the livestock losses were associated with the poor livestock husbandries. About 61.67% kept their livestock in grass hut, 29% in tin house and 9.33% kept outside over night. About 9.33% were using additional methods like collars, guard dogs and traditional weapons during night time. During daytime, 89% herd their livestock in the pasture in a group and 11% leave in the pasture without attending. About 3.66% burn fires around the herding place, 11.33% shout loudly while their livestock return. Others were using lethal control like shooting and trapping illegally. Thus, improving livestock husbandry, developing awareness and strengthens the capacity of managers to mitigate the problem were recommended.

**Key words:** Conflict Management, Depredation, Focal carnivores, Livestock husbandry, Wildlife.