

# **MAY 2025**

# MONTHLY REPORT

LATEST INFORMATION TO THE EXISTING STATUS OF THE PROJECT



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# **MAY 2025 OVERVIEW**

# 1. Daily Operations and Elephant Care at the Sanctuary

- Daily operations at the Amaltari sanctuary continued steadily, ensuring consistent and attentive care for Eva and Lhamo.
- All routine responsibilities—including feeding, hydration, medical checks, enrichment sessions, and mahout salaries—were carried out without interruption.
- A notable one-time investment was made for the acquisition and installation of a large, weather-resistant fabric structure to protect Eva and Lhamo's sleeping area during the approaching monsoon season. This will significantly enhance their nighttime comfort and health by reducing dampness and exposure.

### 2. Ramu Program - Continuous Support and Monitoring

- Ramu's care remained a priority in May, with daily food deliveries and regular visits from the SU4E team in Sauraha.
- The mahouts continued to be closely monitored and supported in their duties, ensuring that Ramu received proper care, hydration, and supervision.
- As previously stated, SU4E does not provide financial support to the Rijal family (Ramu's legal owners). Instead, resources are directed exclusively towards the elephant's well-being.
- The funding provided by the U.S.-based NGO Conserve for Ramu's mahout salary continued to be managed with full transparency, with the payment transferred directly to the mahout through SU4E.

### 3. External Elephant Support Program (SOS Elephants) - Resumed Operations

- May marked the resumption of the "SOS Elephants" program after a seasonal pause.
- The initiative focuses on supporting working elephants in Sauraha, particularly those still involved in tourism-related activities.
- Weekly distributions of food—primarily corn—were conducted by the SU4E team, ensuring supplementary nutrition to working elephants whose diets are often insufficient.
- This program is designed to alleviate immediate welfare concerns while maintaining positive relationships with local owners and mahouts.
- A separate, detailed report on this initiative is currently being prepared and will be shared independently.

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# **MAY 2025 OVERVIEW**

# 4. Sanctuary Maintenance and Operational Efficiency

- The ground team at Amaltari displayed remarkable efficiency, executing improvements while maintaining low operating costs.
- Key upgrades included the construction of additional shaded areas within the sanctuary, which provide essential protection from sun and heat for both elephants and staff.
- Maintenance and development of the sanctuary's vegetable garden progressed successfully. The harvest from this garden continues to reduce food-related expenses for the staff and reflects SU4E's commitment to sustainable, self-reliant practices.
- The month's financial discipline enabled significant improvements without exceeding the operating budget, highlighting the team's strong resource management capabilities.

### 5. Volunteer and Internship Engagement

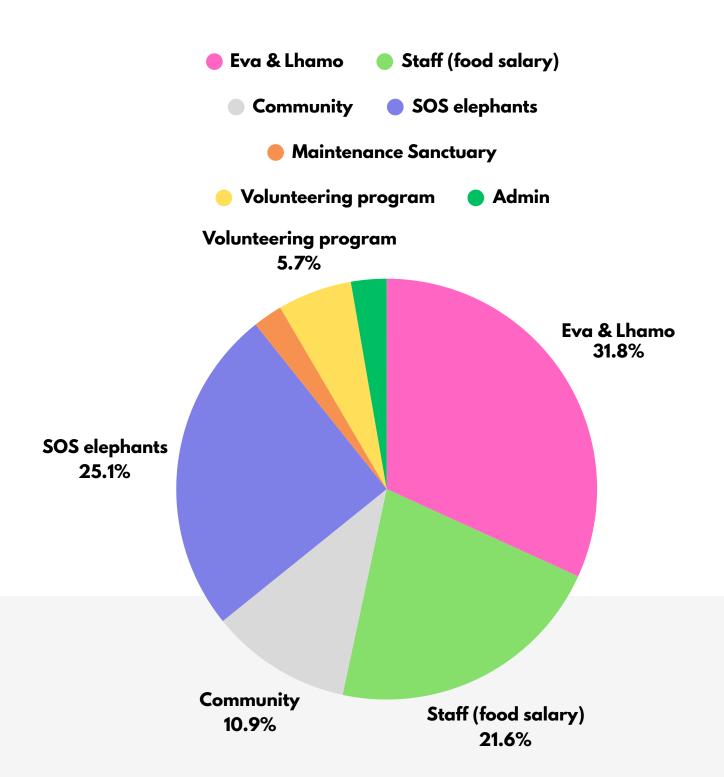
- May was characterized by a dynamic and enthusiastic volunteer presence at the sanctuary.
- SU4E welcomed five volunteers: two from the United Kingdom, two from the Netherlands, and Anupama KC, who returned from Kathmandu University to conduct a brief observational study on elephant behavior as part of her academic research.
- The volunteers participated in a range of tasks, including daily care routines, education sessions, data collection, and minor infrastructure improvements.
- Their involvement contributed significantly to the sanctuary's operations and brought fresh perspectives to SU4E's conservation education efforts.

## 6. Street Dog Welfare Program - Collaboration with HART

- In partnership with the Himalayan Animal Rescue Trust (HART), SU4E organized and hosted a community street dog welfare campaign in May, a project that had been in preparation for several months.
- With major financial backing from SU4E Belgium, the campaign successfully spayed, neutered, and vaccinated 164 street dogs and one cat over a four-day period.
- The initiative represents a substantial improvement for both community welfare and local wildlife conservation. Fewer unvaccinated and stray dogs on the streets helps:
  - Reduce the risk of rabies transmission and other zoonotic diseases,
  - Enhance public safety,
  - Prevent interspecies disease transmission, thereby protecting native wildlife from canine-borne pathogens.
- The campaign strengthened ties between SU4E and the surrounding communities, reinforcing the NGO's broader mission of compassionate coexistence and collaborative conservation.

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# THE STATISTICS - EXPENSES



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# **PHOTOS OF MAY 2025**





Street Dogs Campaign May 2025



