

### **1. Introduction**

- Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) is a growing development challenge in Guyana
- Conflict between large felids & cattle generally receives most attention and funding support
- Conflict related to small carnivores (e.g., ocelot, savanna hawk, crab-eating fox) and small livestock such as chickens may be more frequent, may contribute to retaliatory killing of wildlife

### 2. Objectives

- General objective: Increase understanding of humanwildlife conflict relating to small carnivores and small livestock
- Specific objective 1: Determine the animal species involved in human-wildlife conflict
- Specific objective 2: Investigate the methods used to identify the perpetrator of a livestock depredation event
- Specific objective 3: Increase understanding of management strategies for small livestock
- Specific objective 4: Document practical recommendations of small livestock owners/community members towards reducing instances of HWC



# 3. Participants & methods

- ★ 354 semi-structured interviews with indigenous households in Rupununi communities
- ✓ 4 semi-structured interviews with Toshaos (leaders) of each community
- Local community researchers assisted with interviews
- Respondents identified X predators using wildlife photo cards





# Human-Wildlife Conflict Focusing on Small Carnivores and Small Livestock in the Rupununi, Guyana

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**5.** Results

#### ★ 86% of respondents reported carnivore attacks on their small livestock, 78% of those within the last year.







- livestock species
- instances of HWC



- such as chickens.
- remote location

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## Results

✓ **Objective 1:** Chickens are the small livestock most often attacked, savannah hawk is the 'worst offender'

✓ Objective 2: First person witness was the most common method of predator identification for all

✓ Objective 3: Pens were the livestock management method most used, reported by 48% of respondents.

Objective 4: Participants thought that pens made with better materials would be an effective way to reduce





# 6. Conclusions

Findings support that conflict with large carnivores may not be the main source of HWC, or may not be as prevalent as previously assumed.

Conflict situations more often present between small carnivores, especially birds of prey, and small livestock

A high frequency of attacks is a burden on community members' ability to successfully rear small livestock, thereby impacting an important source of nutrition for a

Using appropriate, community-agreed-upon livestock management strategies to reduce conflict occurrences may engender greater support for wild cat protection, and increase the ability of communities to maintain dietary diversity and improved nutrition

