India’s Ranthambore Reserve in Rajasthan is home to the rare Bengal Tigers. (6)

Every year John Isaac, an Indian-born photographer, travels from New York City in the United States to document these magnificent animals. (8)

“In the last 10 years my interest has grown ten fold and I am very particular about the survival of the tigers.” (8)

His goal is to make sure that people everywhere know about the grave danger
Bengal Tigers face – extinction. (8)

John holds seminars and photographic exhibitions from his visits to Ranthambore to raise awareness of the plight of these tigers. He is also working on publishing a book to document their dilemma due to an increasing human population encroaching on their territory. (17)

According to John and wildlife experts, each tiger needs as much as nine square kilometers to survive, just under four square miles. (9)

The relationship between tigers and people has always been difficult. But now, with much less territory to roam, tigers are often seen trespassing human settlements… (11)

"...the conflict between the villagers and the tigers has always been there. And the government tries to compensate if the tiger kills a goat, or a cow, they pay a certain amount to the villagers.” (16)
between summer and winter habitats. Now these pathways have been taken over by people who use them as living quarters and to reap firewood. (15)

**SUNNY SHAH:** (In English)  M

“We are trying to work with the communities living around and trying to reduce their forest dependency so that we can conserve this corridor patch for the smooth and easy movement of tigers.” (15)

**SUNNY SHAH ON-CAM**

**OFFICER, WWF INDIA**

**NARRATION**

Jamuna Devi, a farmer, lives near the migratory corridor. She used to depend on the forest for grazing pastures. Now, thanks to a World Wildlife Fund initiative, Jamuna no longer needs to rely on the forest for her family’s survival. The secret, introducing new crops closer to her home. (20)

**JAMUNA DEVI**

**JAMUNA DEVI:** (In Hindi)  F

“Last year we grew onions. This year we have grown more. // We planted this 25 days ago and it has already started sprouting.” (16)

**JAMUNA ON-CAM**

**NARRATION**

The success led to even more changes. Jamuna decided to plant fodder for her cattle on her excess land to further preserve the habitat of the tigers. She has also switched to cooking gas so that she doesn’t have to collect forest wood for fuel. (18)
COWS

JAMUNA DEVI: (In Hindi) F
“No one bothers to go to the jungle or use wood anymore, the gas cylinders are now supplied in every home.” (19)

JAMUNA ON-CAM

NARRATION
Climate change also has a direct impact on the habitat of tigers. (5)

DRY FOREST

JOHN ISAAC: (In English) M
“They say for the last two to three years there has been a drought. The rains have not been regular.” (5)

JOHN ON-CAM

SUNNY SHAH: (In English) M
“Climate change is a serious problem in this country, even the continent, so keeping this forest area alive and protected is the only solution.” (11)

SUNNY ON-CAM

SUNNY SHAH: (In English) M
“This year we have raised a nursery of 10,000 saplings. The forest department bought around 2,000 or 3,000 saplings.” (9)

SUNNY ON-CAM

NARRATION
The idea is to plant new trees to replace those lost to severe weather conditions and human activity. (7)

POACHING
DEAD TIGERS
Poaching used to be a major threat to Bengal Tigers, but thankfully the number of big cats killed by poachers has plummeted due to measures implemented by law enforcement agencies which resulted in less demand for tiger products. (15)

Particularly the introduction of camera traps and digital apps which automatically take photos of moving tigers and suspicious persons moving around in the forest. (10)

JOHN ISAAC: (In English) M
“...every time I hear something like this I feel so good and in some ways some things are working and this is what drives me to come and do this.” (11)

JOHN ISAAC: (In English)
“In my lifetime, if the tigers are extinct I don’t know how I will handle it.” (8)

India was the 25th nation to became a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna- CITES.

After the census in 2011, there were 1,700 Tigers in India.
NARRATION
This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4.5)