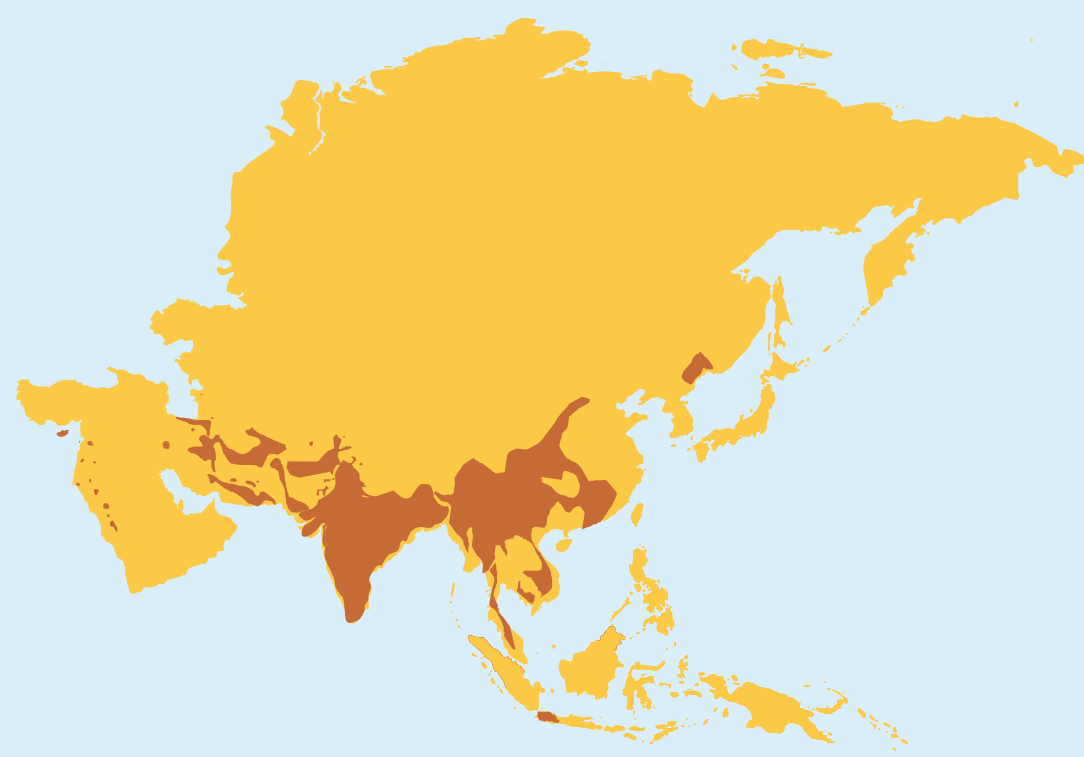


# LEOPARD



Habitat in Asia



Population  
**12000-14000**  
in India

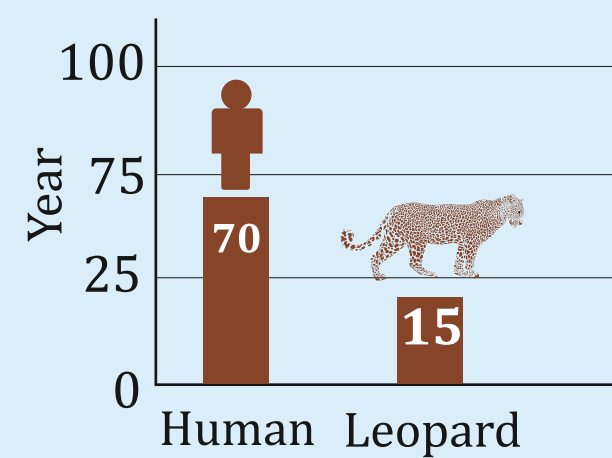
Status: **Vulnerable**



## Breeding

- Birth peak aligned with the reproduction season of prey species
- Can reproduce round the year, breeding may peak in December

## Average lifespan

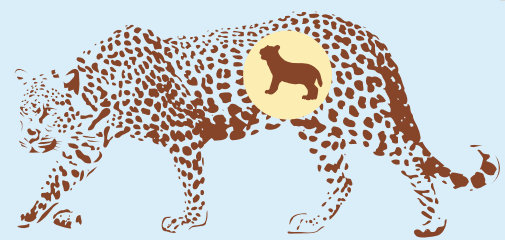


## Reproductive age

Female **18-36** months

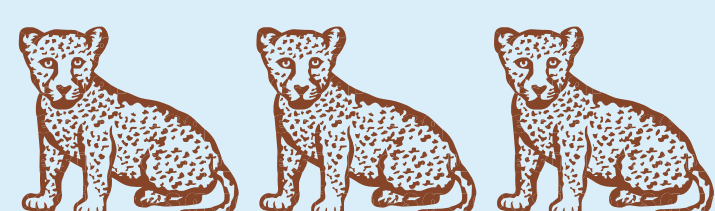
Male **24-28** months

## Gestation period



**3 - 3.5** months → Litters every **1 - 2** years per female

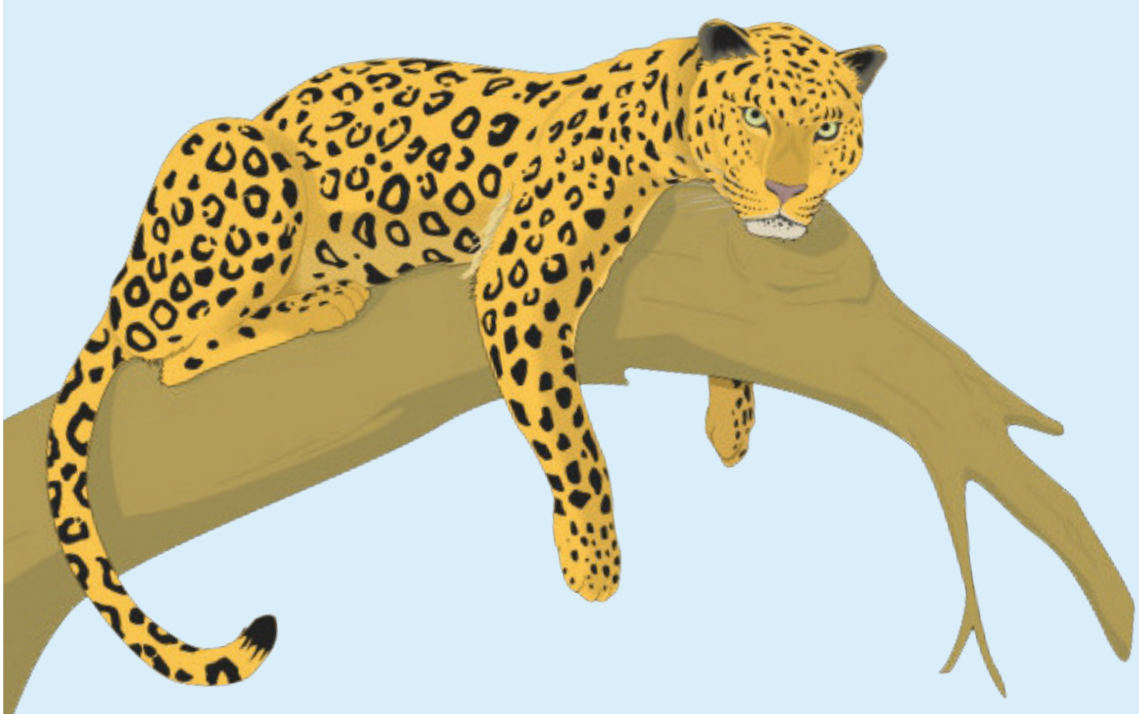
## Leopard cubs



**2 - 3** in a litter

- Solitary and territorial animal
- Primarily nocturnal but maybe active during daytime
- Uses scent marks and vocalization to communicate and tree scratching to mark territory
- Ambush predator, uses scrub cover or darkness to hide and attack prey
- Uses tree tops to locate prey. Hunts in vegetation
- Strong enough to drag large animals to tree tops
- Good swimmer, can hunt fish and crabs in water
- Highly adaptable, can live close to human-use areas where vegetation cover is present
- Attacks dogs and other animals that get attracted to open garbage dumps

## Do you know?



Leopards have black spots called rosette, which they use for camouflage

Even melanistic leopards have spots, which are not easily seen because of the black colour of the body

Leopards play a crucial role in maintaining the balance of the ecosystem, which provides people with food, water, and other resources

Leopards mostly prefer easy prey, therefore feed on livestock or dogs when natural prey is not available

Leopards are territorial. Due to forest loss, leopards are pushed out of forests by stronger and younger leopards into human settlements

Livestock grazing in forests is a big reason for conflicts between leopards and humans

Most of the human attacks are accidental or happen when a leopard is cornered or surrounded

Leopards are opportunistic and may attack any small animal, unattended children or old people

## HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT MITIGATION IN INDIA

Indo-German Cooperation on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India  
2017-2023  
Taking a Harmonious Co-existence  
approach to Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India

