

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Evidence Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”:
(<https://iwt.challengefund.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>).

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 20 pages** in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line

IWT Challenge Fund (IWTCF) Project Information

Project reference	IWTEV004
Project title	Developing a unique open-source global wildlife crime tracker
Country/ies	Nigeria, Malaysia, Vietnam
Lead Partner	Environmental Investigation Agency
Project partner(s)	Justice for Wildlife Malaysia (JWM)
IWTCF grant value	£99,993
Start/end dates of project	01/07/2022 – 30/09/2023
Reporting period (e.g. April 2022-Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	01/07/2022 – 31/03/2023, Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Mel Butler
Project website/blog/social media	https://eia-international.org
Report author(s) and date	Mel Butler, Shaliza Malik, Royce To – 30/04/2023

1. Project summary

It is recognised that the lack of publicly available data on Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) and environmental crime makes it difficult for governments and public organisations to develop effective policies to combat these crimes (UNEP,2018). Publicly available information on seizures of IWT and environmental crime is sporadic, with prosecution data difficult to obtain.

Furthermore, due to reporting biases, the use of seizures alone to analyse the scale and trends in IWT is problematic. Governments, academics, law enforcement agencies and civil society organisations (CSOs) need to be provided with the means to analyse data alongside other

information sources, such as trade data and intelligence. Qualitative data on IWT intelligence is not typically available in a form that can be easily accessed or analysed alongside law enforcement outcomes.

EIA has developed a comprehensive database of global wildlife seizures and law enforcement action linked to ivory, pangolin, rhino horn, Asian big cats and timber. EIA's recently launched [Global Environmental Crime Tracker](#) (GECT) is a publicly accessible dashboard that holds and visualises the data stored on this database. This project seeks to expand the database, as well as increase the functionalities of the GECT in order to address the aforementioned lack of publicly available data and analytical tools that focus on IWT and environmental crime.

More specifically, the project aims to address data accessibility gaps by developing the breadth and use of EIA's GECT. The tool provides stakeholders with access to EIA's database, which stores over 15,400 incidents, and the use of interactive dashboards and maps to effectively analyse trends in wildlife and forest crime. As part of this project, EIA also aims to fill gaps in seizure, prosecution and court data, through outreach to civil society organisations (CSOs) in key IWT countries: Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Data held within EIA's database shows that since 2010, Vietnam has been implicated in more than 700 seizures totalling at least 123 tonnes of ivory, 111 tonnes of pangolin scales and 2.7 tonnes of rhino horn. Of these seizures, Nigeria has been implicated as the exporting country in 19 tonnes (21%) of ivory and 62 tonnes (73%) of pangolin scales, highlighting its significance in the wildlife trade from Africa to Asia. Malaysia has been linked as a transit or destination country to 309 IWT seizures from Africa and EIA intelligence indicates it plays a significant role in the transport of wildlife. EIA's work on the tiger trade has also identified Vietnam to be a persistent trade hub for tigers and their derivatives.

The volumes traded suggest that strengthening law enforcement efforts in these countries will have a significant effect on IWT networks operating between Africa and Asia. Countries should target those in the chain who are profiting the most from IWT to disrupt and deter traffickers who see the trade as a lucrative business. To do this, the financial sector needs access to relevant data to develop internal strategies to detect illicit financial flows linked to wildlife crime and identify those within the financial systems who are benefiting. The project therefore also aims to provide the relevant stakeholders in the target countries with access to this relevant data, through the expansion of EIA's existing Media Monitoring Programme (MMP), which was initially developed as part of a previous IWT Challenge Fund grant. Through partnering with UfW, the project will promote and expand the MMP and disseminate data to the United for Wildlife's (UfW) Financial Taskforce members which will be embedded into customer due diligence systems and improve identification of IWT money laundering risks.

The MMP provides a framework for effective information sharing with the financial sector, facilitating improved due diligence and risk monitoring. EIA partners with TRAFFIC to feed open-source data directly to banks, financial institutions and third-party data providers such as World Check. The programme was highlighted as a good example of NGO and financial sector collaboration by FATF in its 2020 report, with over 11,000 entity names submitted since 2016. Previously, due to lack of resources, the programme has been unable to expand as this has required some improved technology.

EIA recognises that in order to improve knowledge on law enforcement efforts and provide data for analysis of IWT trends, some data collection efforts are replicated by other international and national organisations. As there are numerous tools already publicly available that visually present and analyse data regarding IWT and environmental crimes, including those which may be at a development stage, there is a likelihood that efforts are duplicated. These tools may also overlap in their use and functionality. The project therefore aims to avoid duplication in these activities. Through this project, EIA is engaging with stakeholders to set up a working group to address the recognised need for organisations who collect data to share resources, preventing duplication of effort and providing an established location for data collation.

Although this project does not have a direct impact on local communities, there are some indirect impacts that might be observed. In Malaysia, the indigenous community (Orang Asli) is affected by IWT. According to JWM's ground observations and recent court visits that point to

cases involving Orang Asli, it is suggested that there is a level of exploitation occurring, since they are exempted from some provisions of the Wildlife Conservation Act. The project helps in establishing a trend of prosecution in the country to ascertain the need for a review of all legislations involving Malaysia's indigenous community.

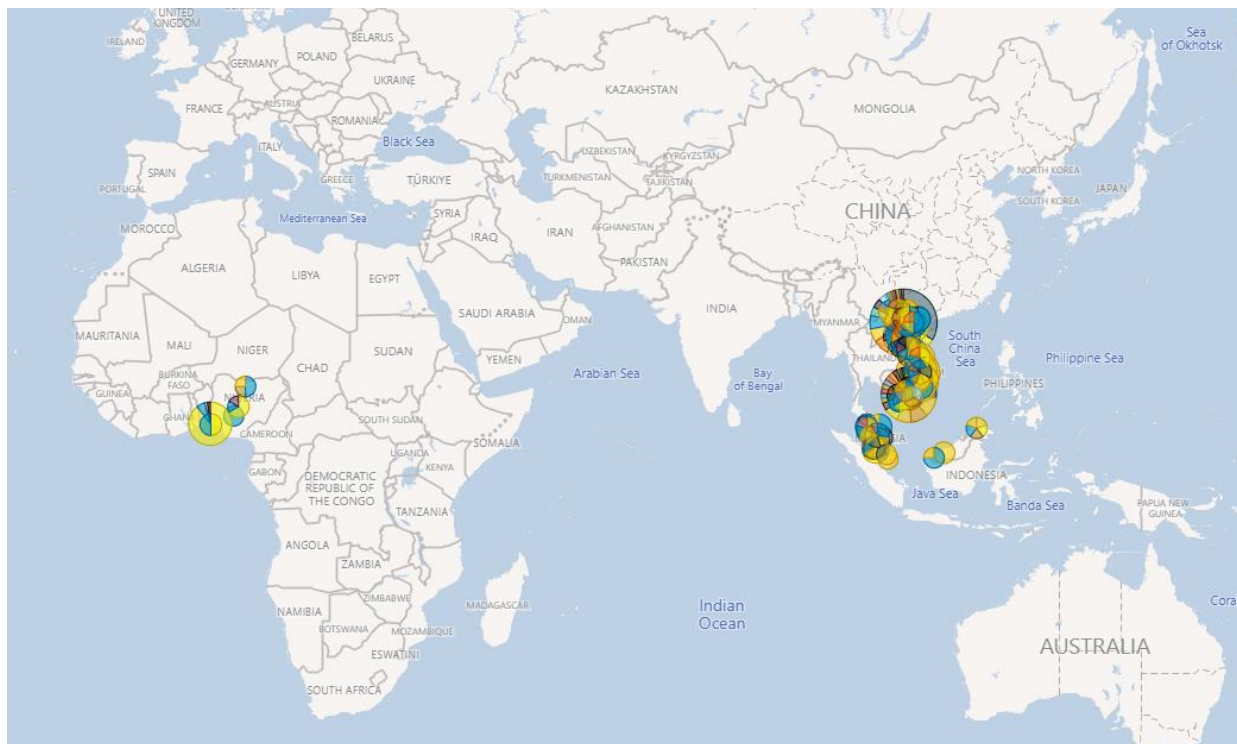


Figure 1: Snapshot of wildlife crime incidents mapped on EIA's GECT in Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

In this project, the Environmental Investigation Agency UK (EIA) based in London, UK is the lead institution, and the two main partners are Justice for Wildlife Malaysia (JWM) and United for Wildlife (UfW).

JWM is based in Malaysia and their stated goal is to protect and conserve wildlife in Malaysia through legal means, as well as to promote legal literacy among wildlife conservation fraternities. Initially, EIA identified limited CSOs monitoring wildlife crime data in Malaysia, so JWM were invited to be partners on this project as they are based in one of the three target countries and their Project Minerva aligned with the objectives of the project. JWM have so far employed a full-time Case Tracker for 12 months to collate and update cases of wildlife crime in Malaysia. These cases will be used to input data into EIA's GECT and provide transparency on crime and prosecution rates in Malaysia. This data will add value to the global picture of wildlife trafficking as Malaysia is a key source and transit country in the IWT for EIA's key focal species. So far, JWM have been tracking court cases, and have managed to obtain data from the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP). Since receiving the data, EIA and JWM have liaised on next steps for integrating the data into EIA's GECT and a process to identify gaps in the data.

This project has partnered with UfW in order to promote and expand EIA's MMP. The project will collaborate with the UfW's financial taskforce, which was formed after UfW recognised that financial institutions have a crucial role to play in combatting IWT by using existing systems in place to look for money laundering and payments for illegal goods. EIA will use UfW's financial taskforce to identify banks and financial institutions to join the MMP and improve available information to entities implicated in wildlife trafficking. EIA and UfW will deliver training on the use of the GECT and provide members with information on MMP to encourage additional

banks and financial institutions to sign up to the programme. The date of this training webinar has been set for 23rd May 2023. EIA will also provide trend assessments and financial typologies to private sector partners through UfW to improve knowledge on IWT.

EIA have also been working with the private sector recipients of the MMP. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

In preparation of expanding the MMP, the project will improve the efficiency of the programme through the automation of the data flow which will increase capacity for additional financial institutions to receive data regularly and efficiently. Although these relationships were pre-existing before the project began, EIA have been engaging with the recipients throughout the automation and the expansion process. These recipients have been taking an active part in providing feedback during the process of automating the programme. As a result of this communication, the initial automation plans have been simplified, and some initial challenges that arose with the initial automation plans were resolved.

Other informal partners of this project include those that EIA is inviting to join the working group, which will aim to assemble key stakeholders to discuss improved data collection and sharing between organisations. EIA will aim to hold at least two virtual roundtables to encourage dialogue to discuss obstacles with databases of publicly available data. The longevity of the working group and considerations beyond the initial objectives will be determined towards the end of these roundtables. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Activity 1.1: New Case Tracker within Justice for Wildlife Malaysia will research and document cases of wildlife trafficking and prosecution outcomes to improve data records in EIA's Crime Tracker.

JWM hired a new court case tracker (Lavinia Augustine, Case Tracking Coordinator) at the start of this project in July 2022. During her role on the project, Lavinia has been tracking cases in court and following up with the wildlife department (DWNP) for updates. All cases are documented and maintained in an Excel sheet and communicated with EIA for improvements.

Activity 1.2: Outreach conducted to CSOs in Nigeria and Vietnam to share data on cases and prosecutions in-country.

EIA has reached out to ANI and WCS in Nigeria and ENV in Vietnam to learn more about the prosecution data available in those two countries. As a result, we have learnt that it is quite difficult CSOs to obtain prosecution data in Nigeria, largely because it doesn't exist in a centralised database, and the process of accessing related documents is often time-consuming and inefficient, as it requires several attempts of chasing up the relevant agencies. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Activity 1.3: Collaborating with partners and key stakeholders, EIA will produce trend assessments on IWT trade routes, financial flows and methodology of wildlife trafficking

in target countries which will be disseminated to national and international law enforcement agencies and members through United for Wildlife.

Once data collection has progressed further, EIA will produce a trends assessment on IWT flows linked to Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam and will be reported on in the final report.

Activity 1.4: Training on the use of the Crime Tracker to key CSOs and government agencies in target countries through outreach.

We will be presenting to the members of UfW taskforces on the 23rd May 2023, to promote and demonstrate the use of the GECT and the MMP. JWM will be invited to join so they can promote the tool and programme in Malaysia to government agencies and other CSOs.

Activity 1.5: Working with tech consultants, identification and integration of additional data source to add to the Crime Tracker for analysis.

EIA is designing an analysis dashboard on prosecution data which will be released during the final project period.

Activity 2.1: EIA will employ tech consultants to automate Media Monitoring programme databases for efficient data sharing.

Using the project funding, EIA hired a Database Manager (Royce To) who has been overseeing the automation of the MMP. This process has involved liaising with the recipients of the programme to ensure that the shift from a manual submission to an automated submission is still satisfying their requirements. Using Power Automate, automation flows have been created to submit data both on a daily and a monthly basis. EIA are looking to formally switch to the automations within the coming month.

Activity 2.2: United for Wildlife will facilitate collaboration with Financial Taskforce members and EIA to include training and data sharing through the programme.

EIA will be presenting to the members of UfW on the 23rd May 2023, to promote the GECT and the MMP and to encourage more financial sector institutions to sign up to receive data.

Activity 2.3: Identification of key banks and financial institutions in target countries to sign up to the programme and receive data.

Key banks have been identified in Malaysia through JWM's pre-existing network, who are in contact with the FIU at the Central Bank of Malaysia through their work on the national AML framework and are discussing the dissemination of data to national banks through the FIU. JWM will also be attending an AMLA workshop in Indonesia to expedite the discussions with the Central Bank of Malaysia.

Key banks in the other target countries, Nigeria and Vietnam, have also been identified through ongoing work at EIA and through EIA's partnership with UfW. These banks will all be contacted once the MMP has switched to a fully automated system so that this expansion is sustainable.

Activity 2.4: Production of financial red flag documents to share with public and private financial sector on IWT.

Through match funding for the project, EIA produced a financial typology detailing illicit financial flows linked to Vietnamese networks involved in illegal wildlife trafficking. This was shared with the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce in February 2023 to disseminate to financial sector partners.

Activity 3.1: Engagement with NGOs collecting wildlife crime data to agree regular data sharing.

In the duration of this project, EIA have signed an Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) with TRAFFIC, with whom data is shared on a monthly basis. EIA have also signed a new ISA with C4ADS and are in the process of doing the same with Oxpeckers.

Activity 3.2: Creation of a working group with key stakeholders to discuss issues with data collection for wildlife crime and challenges with sharing information.

EIA have been in talks with TRAFFIC (through in-person and online meetings) and have put together an introductory document to send out to other participants who will be invited to the working group. [REDACTED]

Activity 3.3: Scoping and comprehensive gap analysis carried out on current or developing platforms for wildlife crime data

A survey was designed and disseminated to known recipients of data from EIA's database to understand the limitations with current data analysis tools for wildlife crime. The survey link was also published on EIA's GECT homepage for users of the GECT. So far, there have been 15 participants who have responded, which was the target as detailed in the project's logical framework. The feedback provided from this survey will be incorporated into the planning of the GECT expansion and be taken into consideration for future projects.

Activity 3.4: Proposal document produced on future collaborative platform, costed out and partners identified.

This activity will be carried out after the deadline of this progress report, so will be included in the final project report.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: A publicly available resource on IWT which provides greater transparency of law enforcement efforts and analysis of trends to feed into future strategies to disrupt trafficking of key wildlife species.

This project is aiming to increase the number of national CSOs in target countries that are contributing data to the GECT. The contribution made to the database is measured using an 'Agency Contributor' field, where the contribution from the CSOs is acknowledged. The baseline is 1 CSO in one of the target countries. [REDACTED]

As part of Output 1, the project also aims to increase the number of prosecution outcomes and court case records held within the GECT for the target countries from the baseline of 14% to 50% through additional research conducted. Currently, the 15.38% of incidents within the GECT have been recorded with a conviction. For the project's target countries, 11.43% of incidents have recorded convictions. The initial baseline for prosecution outcomes was calculated by recording whether perpetrators involved in the incidents were convicted or not using a Yes/No field in the database. Upon reflection, this could be strengthened as detailed under Feedback 5 in Section 10.

There are two outstanding activities under Output 1 that are due to begin after this reporting period. The first outstanding activity is the analysis of IWT trends in Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam which will be disseminated to law enforcement agencies working in Africa and Asia, as well as the UfW transport and finance taskforces. The target is to have two trend assessments disseminated by 2023. One of the outputs will be produced by JWM, who will be publishing a paper on the national records of wildlife related court cases for Malaysia that has been peer reviewed. The second outstanding task is the minimum of 1 additional data layer which will be added to the GECT to improve analysis. The planning, designing and technical implementation of this data layer is due to begin once the automation of the MMP has been completed and will include the new prosecution data obtained throughout the project.

Output 2: Improved knowledge and awareness of wildlife seizures assist the financial sector to improve identification of risks associated with money laundering and embedded into customer due diligence systems.

Under Output 2.2, the project aims to increase the numbers of entity names provided to financial institutions through the MMP from the baseline of 150 to an average of 300 per month by August 2023. Between July 2022 and November 2022, there was an average of 166 names submitted through the MMP per month. During December 2022, there were only 67 names submitted, due to limited staffing capacity. As of the end of March 2023, the average over the duration of the project so far is 143 names per month. These statistics were calculated through the MMP database which is hosted by Airtable. The baseline is still below the target due to a number of reasons, including the manual submission of data, which is dependent on staff capacity and availability. Once the MMP has been automated, it should remove the bottleneck as manual submissions will no longer be required. As a result of the automation, further participants will be invited to submit data to the MMP as the system will be more manageable which should theoretically increase the average of entity names submitted per month by August 2023.

Between July 2022 and March 2023, 1,259 entity names have been submitted to the Know Your Customer (KYC) databases of the recipients. [REDACTED]

The number of banks and financial institutions signed up to the programme is also aimed to increase through the expansion to the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Once the automation of the MMP is complete, further institutions will be invited to become recipients of the MMP. These include institutions in the target countries where EIA has already engaged previously, as well as members of the UfW financial taskforce. EIA will be delivering a presentation on the 23rd May 2023, where the MMP will be promoted and attendees will be invited to sign up. Through these engagements, the project should achieve its target of 20 recipients by August 2023. This is being tracked through the media monitoring recipient database held by EIA.

Financial red flag documents and financial typologies from EIA’s investigation and intelligence work will be shared with financial institutions through UfW and the MMP. The project’s log-frame states the target to be a minimum of 3 documents shared by August 2023, which will be verified by EIA’s dissemination tracker and sanitised versions of the red flag documents. To date, one financial typology has been shared with UfW Financial Taskforce members.

Output 3: Increased collaboration between international NGOs on sharing data and identification of joint working opportunities for a publicly available platform of wildlife crime, intelligence and conservation data.

Under Output 3, the project aims to provide a forum for international NGOs, who also collect similar or complimentary data to EIA, to increase collaboration by identifying areas of similar work, whilst also identifying gaps that need to be filled. EIA will provide this forum through creating a working group and holding at least two virtual roundtables (output 3.3). At least two of the NGOs in the working group that regularly collect IWT data will be invited to sign an MOU (output 3.1) with EIA to enable regular scheduled data swaps (output 3.2), which will be reflected in the EIA's database using the "Agency Contributor" field and EIA's dissemination tracker. At the end of this project, EIA will aim to provide a proposal for a technical solution to create a collaborative platform for the working group members (output 3.4).

So far, EIA has created an introductory terms of reference document, detailing the objectives and the agendas outlined for the two virtual roundtables, which has been reviewed by TRAFFIC. This document will be ready for dissemination in May 2023 with dates TBC.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: EIA's expanded Global Environmental Crime Tracker serves as a key resource on IWT trends for a range of public and private sector stakeholders, including financial institutions and law enforcement agencies

This project seeks to further expand EIA's GECT, so that it can continue to serve as a key resource on IWT trends for a range of public and private sector stakeholders, including financial institutions and law enforcement agencies.

At the beginning of the project in July 2022, there were 14,280 seizure incidents recorded in the database. As of March 2023, there are 15,478 seizure incidents recorded in the database. In accordance with the log frame, the aim is to increase the number of seizure incidents available on EIA's GECT by at least 10% by August 2023. So far, the number of seizure incidents have increased by 8.39%. The number of seizure incidents in the database is expected to increase as a result of project activities and engagement with other NGOs.

Training will also be provided to a minimum of 10 private sector organisations on the use of the GECT. This training will be provided as part of a presentation to UfW's financial taskforce on 23rd May 2023. The number of attendees will be recorded and EIA will initiate liaison with participants suitable to join the Media Monitoring Programme to receive data. Feedback forms will also be provided at the end of the presentation for the attendees to complete.

The expansion of the GECT will be informed by a survey that was conducted on data analysis tools for IWT. This survey has allowed users of the GECT and recipients of EIA's data to provide feedback on the GECT's current functionalities. The results of this survey will be used to determine what highlighted gaps can be addressed as part of this project. This will be designed into the expansion of the GECT, including the additional layer as described in Output 1.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: Seizure incidents for key countries are available through open sources.

Comment: There continues to be high reporting of wildlife seizures through open media sources which are collected and entered into the EIA database.

Assumption 2: Financial institutions regard potential exposure to money laundering linked to wildlife crime as an issue of concern

Comment: Discussions with financial institutions through the MMP and UfW Financial Taskforce have evidenced a concern regarding exposure to wildlife crime, with requests for

typologies and red flag information to be sent to them. MMP update calls with participants has highlighted the need to continue supplying data.

Assumption 3: Civil-society entities across Africa and Asia demonstrate willingness to collaborate and partner with international NGOs to share data

Comment: EIA has done outreach with several CSOs in Nigeria and Vietnam who have been supportive of the project but this has identified a gap in the collection of prosecution data in these countries. In Malaysia, JWM is currently sharing data and information with EIA.

[REDACTED]

Assumption 4: Prosecution and court records for key countries are available through open sources.

Comment: This assumption has largely turned out to be incorrect for Malaysia and Nigeria which has led to a difficulty in accessing prosecution outcomes for these countries. Malaysian, prosecution and court records are not available as open-source documents. However, there are some court reports that can be obtained through legal journals. From the research conducted by JWM, only 16 cases charged under the Wildlife Conservation Act were found in Malaysian legal journals. This is not an accurate reflection of the number of wildlife crime cases that are prosecuted in court.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Vietnam has a publicly accessible court case portal which EIA has been able to make use of, but after some interrogation of the portal it appears that there are limited wildlife cases available.

Assumption 5: Technology consultants can be contracted to provide advice and identify options to add additional data to the GECT

Comment: Technological consultants have previously worked with EIA during the initial development of the GECT. This assumption will be tested once the work on the additional data layer begins and will be reflected upon in the final project report if required.

Assumption 6: Financial institutions regard potential exposure to money laundering linked to wildlife crime as an issue of concern

Comment: Discussions with financial institutions through the MMP and UfW Financial Taskforce have highlighted a concern regarding exposure to money laundering, with requests for typologies and red flag information to be disseminated to them. The MMP update calls with participants has highlighted the need to continue supplying data.

Assumption 7: UfW Financial Taskforce members attend introductory webinar and engage with the programme

Comment: EIA has previously presented to the UfW Financial Taskforce members where we have received an adequate level of engagement. The same is expected for a scheduled presentation on 23rd May 2023.

Assumption 8: Technological improvements to the system can be achieved through consultancy to allow for automation of the data flow

Comment: Technological improvements to the system to allow for automation of the data flow of the MMP has been possible, however this is currently being carried out by EIA's Data Manager, as opposed to through a consultancy.

Assumption 9: Current recipients of IWT entity names can manage to process the increase in data sent to them and can provide feedback

Comment: All recipients have been contacted and none have raised concern in managing and processing the increase of data.

[REDACTED]

Assumption 10: Banks' customer due diligence procedures are sufficiently robust to avoid offering services to individuals and companies implicated in IWT cases included in databases
Comment: EIA has been running the MMP since 2020 and so far no concerns regarding the robustness of due diligence procedures have been raised. This robustness is unlikely to be affected by the automation of the MMP.

Assumption 11: Research and investigations yield sufficient relevant information for typologies to be produced
Comment: EIA has produced numerous typologies based on information extracted from the database as well as investigations. Due to ongoing data entry and investigations, there is sufficient data available for updated typologies to be produced in the future.

Assumption 12: International NGOs and national CSOs are willing and have the capacity to join a working group on seizure and crime data collection
Comment: This assumption was based on initial engagement with NGOs and national CSOs

[Redacted]

Assumption 13: Key international NGOs are willing and have capacity to collaborate on joint projects and regularly share data

[Redacted]

Assumption 14: An agreement on a joint tech solution can be reached between members of the working group
Comment: There will be two roundtables that members of the working group will attend. They will all get an opportunity to share their thoughts on the joint technical solutions which, including addressing any concerns they have. EIA are hoping that this depth of communication will allow for all members to agree on a joint solution.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on illegal wildlife trade and poverty reduction

The project impacts on biodiversity and poverty alleviation are mainly indirect. The project aims to increase transparency and scope of information on illegal wildlife trade trends to enable more informed policy responses by governments and private sector and assist in targeted law enforcement responses. Improving law enforcement responses will reduce the ability for criminal networks to be able to operate transnationally to traffic illegal wildlife products.

By sharing data on perpetrators involved in the illegal wildlife trade with banks and other financial institutions the project is increasing the ability for the financial sector to generate suspicious transaction reports linked to IWT. This should therefore increase the number of financial investigations into wildlife traffickers which will disrupt their activities. The overall impact of the project envisaged disruption to the operations of IWT syndicates leading to reduced poaching and enhanced livelihood opportunities in source countries.

In terms of poverty alleviation, reduced poaching rates have the potential to enhance human development in rural areas by protecting wildlife tourism income in range states included in the project. Increased use of laws to seize assets from wildlife criminals can contribute to state funds. Addressing the lack of information obtained on the perpetrators prosecuted in court, especially in trying to understand the demographics and the modus operandi of perpetrators, will also increase the understanding of the root cause of IWT in high-risk communities.

This project has highlighted that Malaysia does not currently have a centralized database storing wildlife crime incidents. Therefore, this project acts as a catalyst towards obtaining baseline information on IWT in Malaysia. This baseline can then be used to produce statistics that will aid in predicting trends and gauging the effectiveness of laws surrounding wildlife crimes.

4. Thematic focus

1. Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents

The project supports the use of effective legal frameworks through the collection of relevant seizure data and court case data (Output 1). Improving access to data on prosecution outcomes to relevant NGOs and law enforcement authorities, provides them with data required to analyse current prosecution trends that can highlight the shortcomings of deterrents in place and provide evidence for ineffective legal frameworks. This data therefore contributes to analysis of the efficiency of legal frameworks and deterrents. This project also provides project partners with the opportunity to engage with judicial authorities and offer support with ongoing cases, such as cases in Malaysia through JWM's Project Minerva.

The MMP data submitted to KYC databases also contributes to effective legal frameworks as it continues to provide data that improves knowledge and awareness of IWT and environmental crime within the financial sector. The MMP assists the financial sector in improving the identification of risks associated with money laundering and ensuring these are embedded into customer due diligence systems (Output 2). The MMP highlights risks of corruption and increases the detection of money laundering, contributing to the prosecution of IWT offenders for financial crimes. Removing criminal proceeds from wildlife crime offenders will act as a deterrent to committing wildlife offences.

More specifically for Malaysia, the figures obtained from JWM's court case tracking work serve to provide an understanding of Malaysia's law enforcement and judicial response to wildlife crime, especially after the recent amendments to the Wildlife Conservation Act (716). The effectiveness of the amendments made can be reviewed. This project can also help identify the gaps in the post-arrest procedures in Malaysia, and provide areas of improvement for law enforcement agencies.

2. Strengthening law enforcement

This project aims to provide increased transparency and scope of information on IWT and environmental crime trends that will enable more informed policy responses by governments and private sector and assist in targeted law enforcement responses. Outputs produced by the project will be shared to improve knowledge of illegal wildlife trends and illicit financial flows.

In Malaysia, information gleaned from this project will be utilized to improve court case intake in terms of duration and overall prosecution paperwork preparation. JWM is in close contact with LEAs to produce a prosecution guideline aimed at instilling best practices in prosecution-based operational work.

5. Impact on species in focus

EIA's analysis of intelligence and data from seizure incidents suggest that Nigeria and Vietnam, with Malaysia often acting as a transit, are hot spots when it comes to IWT and environmental crime. The flourishing activity of criminal syndicates along this established trade route is a major threat to the survival of EIA's focal species, including the Elephant, Rhino and Pangolin. Transnational IWT criminal syndicates that operate in Nigeria take advantage of the rampant corruption, weak law enforcement and lack of governance to exploit Nigeria's natural capital. Recommended solutions to tackle these syndicates include the provision of data to relevant authorities (as detailed in Section 1 of this report). This project hopes that through increasing data accessibility and sharing trend assessments and financial typologies, key players in governmental, judicial and law enforcement agencies can be better informed and create more

effective legal frameworks and deterrents, as well as strengthening law enforcement (as detailed in Section 4 of this report).

The expansion of the GECT and MMP (Output 1 and 2) will allow data and trend analysis to be fed to more relevant recipients in the project’s target countries, which will result in increased accountability and efficient prosecutions of convicted perpetrators. The increased collaboration expected in the working group virtual roundtables (Output 3) should increase the volume of data held in the GECT, as well as the number of entity names submitted through the MMP to KYC databases. Therefore, the activities under this project will increase the transparency and scope of information available regarding IWT on a global level across different NGOs. This will enable better informed policy responses by governments and private sector companies, as well as more targeted responses by law enforcement agencies (as detailed in the project’s log-frame). This increased transparency should reduce the freedom that transnational syndicates will have when operating in the target countries, which should significantly decrease the risk that the populations of our focal species are facing.

6. Project support to poverty reduction

As the project’s main beneficiaries are government agencies and private sector banks, impacts on poverty are indirect. However, by improving access and transparency on wildlife crime prosecutions in countries evidenced as hotspots (Output 1.2), there will be increased understanding of the demographics and the modus operandi of perpetrators which will assist with understanding the root cause of IWT in high-risk communities.

The World Bank states that data offers the potential to create value by improving programs and policies, driving economies and empowering citizens¹. The report ‘Data for Better Lives’ describes a conceptual framework that links data to development through different pathways. The middle pathway is the use of data by governments and international organizations to support evidence-based policy making and improved service delivery. The top pathway is the use of data by civil society to monitor the effects of government policies and by individuals to enable them to monitor and access public and commercial services (The World Bank, 2021). By developing an open-access tool such as the GECT, this project will provide countries with the data to monitor the risk of IWT to their communities, alongside the government’s response.

This project aims to advance understanding and evidence of wildlife crime within Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam to strengthen the knowledge base related to biodiversity conservation. In Malaysia, the communities affected by IWT is the indigenous community (Orang Asli). JWM’s recent court visits point to cases involving Orang Asli, which suggests a level of exploitation is happening, since they are exempted from some provisions of the Wildlife Conservation Act. The project helps in establishing a trend of prosecution in the country to ascertain the need for a review of all legislations involving Malaysia’s indigenous community.

7. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ² .	50%
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which	2/3 project partners

¹ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/03/24/stronger-data-systems-needed-to-fight-poverty>

² A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ³ .	
---	--

In line with the International Development Act (Gender Equality) 2014, EIA and the project partners continue to be committed to ensuring gender equality and equity are promoted throughout the project. All outreach activities are aimed at accessing all genders working in civil society organizations with the aim of curbing wildlife and financial crime.

It is recognized that there may be unequal gender representation in these organisations that result in more men benefitting from the activities and tools than women. However, obstacles to equal participation are being monitored and, once they arise, will address them to ensure as equal representation as possible. Both co-founders and project directors at JWM are women, as is the Case Tracking Coordinator position funded by this project, contributing to a high representation of women within the project partner organisation.

EIA has a range of policies to ensure gender balance amongst teams and prevent discrimination at all levels of the organisation. EIA's research and investigations into IWT indicate that both men and women are involved in the syndicates using money laundering to finance the trade. EIA advocates for intelligence led enforcement to target the major criminals controlling wildlife crime regardless of gender.

At the community level, the reduction of illicit financial flows linked to wildlife crime through the investigation and prosecution of criminal syndicate leaders and facilitators will increase equality including gender equality through improved rule of law and good governance. By ensuring revenue is not lost more investment can also be made into services and infrastructure that equally benefit the needs of men and women and boys and girls. Since the project is not working at the community level we are not collecting data related to gender impacts but will report back in the final project report on any unexpected benefits and monitor any unintended negative impacts that may arise related to gender from the project.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

EIA's internal project team has been meeting on a fortnightly basis. Progress is tracked through an internal Excel document which details the project's SMART indicators and is reviewed on a monthly basis. This highlights where progress is being made and draws attention to where effort needs to be focused. The SMART indicators that are being tracked include the number of incident records in the database, disseminations of data, disseminations of names of entities to the MMP and the number of new profiles created by the MMP recipients. These SMART indicators directly contribute to the project's activities for each output, so contribution towards the project outcome can be assessed.

There are no anticipated changes for the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plans over the reporting period. There have however been some amendments to the time frame of the project for the different activities. As more time has taken to design and implement the MMP, due to allowing time for recipients to adapt to the automations and resolving technical hurdles, the implementation timetable has had to be amended to ensure there is adequate capacity to finalise the MMP automation. As the technical implementation of the MMP is almost complete, the team's time and capacity can focus on the additional data layer implementation.

In addition, EIA have been conducting regular catch ups with the project's main partner JWM, where the project team has been briefed on their updates and progress made. As it is EIA's role to update the M&E tracker, updates are added into the internal Excel spreadsheet by the project's Data Analyst at the end of every catch up.

³ Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

[REDACTED]

9. Lessons learnt

Tracking and updating the SMART indicators on an internal M&E spreadsheet, as well as fortnightly project catch up meetings, has been informing the project team what areas are on track and where resources and efforts need to be focused. This monthly tracking of the project's SMART indicators has highlighted that so far, outreach for the pre-determined working group partners, increasing the number of incidents displayed on the GECT and generating new profiles on KYC databases through the MMP submissions has been working well. It would be more appropriate to comment on the lessons learnt in full based on all indicators once the project is completed, so this will be elaborated on in the final project report.

The project has encountered challenges throughout the project period. The most significant challenge has been acquiring court cases for the project's target countries, which directly contributes to increasing the number of prosecution outcomes recorded in the database as detailed under Output 1. Court case data from Nigeria has been minimal, due to a lack of central database within the country and a small number of arrests and prosecutions reported.

[REDACTED]

Despite hosting a public court case portal, the number of wildlife crime cases available for Vietnam is small.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Another significant challenge encountered by the project team so far as been designing and technically implementing the automation of the MMP. Under Output 2, this project is seeking to automate the MMP so that it can expand sustainably without requiring an increase in capacity. Among the digital solutions we have looked into so far, the use of Microsoft Power Platform, together with Microsoft 365, has been determined as suitable for fulfilling the technical functionalities required to automate the MMP. More importantly, these applications do not require complicated coding, which should enable the team to achieve the aforementioned automation.

While the use of Microsoft Power Platform and Microsoft 365 has fulfilled the requirements for the automation, the lack of allocated funding for long term licensing of digital tools and infrastructure inhibits the full potential of the expansion of the MMP, as well as the GECT. For example, the underlying datasets of the GECT have not been migrated to a relational database

for scalability, which limits the full potential of any future expansion. The use of Power BI, a data visualisation tool, also requires yearly subscription to maintain its functionality for sharing information publicly, as on the GECT.

While it is a challenge to fulfil long term digital requirements into short term projects, sponsorships from the tech industry, collaboration with academia and funders to provide digital licensing as a package or, other funding models, are avenues which could be explored in future to mitigate this.

10. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

Feedback point 1: It was unclear why South American countries weren't also a part of the project focus given the fact that illegal timber trade is a major issue there.

This decision was made due to capacity and reach under the grant available. EIA has ongoing projects within the target countries so it was assessed that the objectives would be achievable within the short time frame and small budget available. As a pilot project, it was important that the project did not over promise and that it was as focused as possible. Once the project has finished, the pilot will be evaluated to assess whether geographical scope could be expanded to include other countries and regions.

Feedback point 2: Clarification on whether only 8% of the budget will be spent in country would be useful.

Despite the in-country budget appearing small, the funds covered full costs for a Case Tracker position within JWM. Throughout the project EIA has evaluated whether additional funds were needed to fulfil the project objectives and have submitted a change request to increase the sub-grant to JWM from 8% to 10% which will cover an additional two months' salary for the Case Tracker position.

Feedback point 3: It would have been beneficial to see recognition of UNODC's related work even if their World WISE database and SHERLOC portal are not open source.

As referenced earlier in the report, EIA has been in liaison with UNODC regarding their data collection for the World WISE database. UNODC will be a participant in the working group virtual roundtables to share experiences and they are also setting up a focused meeting at their office in Vienna for EIA, TRAFFIC and UNODC to discuss data collection in more detail.

Feedback point 4: The specific data being collected for financial institutions could be clarified and the risks associated with ensuring that data does not end up in the public domain drawn out.

All current and future NGOs that submit data to the MMP are fully briefed on how the data is used and disseminated, this is also clarified in the ISA signed by NGOs when they confirm their consent and agree to submit their data into the MMP. The data collected for financial institutions through MMP consists of person and company entity names from open sources. As the data is non-confidential, there are no risks with the data ending up in the public domain. The financial typology shared with UfW was anonymised for dissemination. Financial sector companies are required to contact EIA for a confidential version which is then shared through an encrypted email with the recipient.

Feedback point 5: The logframe could be strengthened further through the inclusion of the target countries and gender focused indicators.

The logframe could be strengthened for Output 1.2. Currently, the logframe states that the number of prosecutions for target countries held within the GECT is 14%, and that the project will aim to bring this up to 50%. Upon reflection, this baseline of 14% should have been separated into a baseline percentage for all countries and a baseline percentage for the project's target countries. The new reflected baselines as of 31st June 2022 (before the project began) is 15.51% for all countries and 11.45% for target countries. As the project is aiming to expand and improve the GECT which has a global focus, the target of 50% increase is

applicable to the percentage of convictions recorded in the database for incidents across all countries.

The GECT does not currently record gender-based data as there is no correlating field in EIA's seizure database. We do however provide a gender field in the MMP for NGOs who submit data and record the gender of their perpetrators. Although EIA does not record this information at present, we will consider incorporating this into any future development of the GECT.

11. Risk Management

[REDACTED]

12. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

As some activities have taken longer than anticipated, such as the automation of the MMP and accessing court cases within the project's target countries (as detailed throughout this report), EIA has had to push back the commencement of other activities, such as the development of the additional layer on the GECT dashboard.

Although accessing court cases has taken more time and effort than initially anticipated, an active effort is being made to achieve this as soon as possible. For example, JWM submitted a formal request to DWNP in 2022 for the data, but it took almost 9 months of communication before they were able to access the required data in March 2023. This has impacted on the implementation timetable.

13. Sustainability and legacy

The project aims to deliver sustainable benefits by providing key institutions with data and actionable information on bad actors. This increases the capacity of financial sector investigation and compliance departments to detect suspicious transactions and customers linked to IWT. Additionally, through bridging data gaps, as described in Sections 1, 2 and 3, this project provides key institutions with context and evidence to support financial investigations and reinforce laws to tackle IWT and environmental crime.

The use of this data and the intelligence documents will therefore have lasting impacts, as it effectively raises awareness of related financial flows and the need for financial investigations

to halt the activity of criminal syndicates, which combined with governmental support, will lead to systematic application of financial investigations and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) laws to counter wildlife trafficking. Through providing the open source GECT, governmental agencies (and other relevant key institutions) will be able to monitor and analyse IWT and environmental crime on a global level, so that they can review and implement the relevant and effective policies. Once the data has been collected, the data provides a lasting record which does not need to be duplicated by other organisations.

Through working with CSOs in our target countries of Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam, the improved and expanded GECT will ensure the continued monitoring of wildlife crime in target countries and provide a national public database for use by policy makers. In Malaysia, the case tracking work has been communicated to the Chief Registrar of the Federal Court and Sarawak Forestry Corporation. JWM are also in touch with several other agencies to kickstart the work on AML within wildlife crime, citing a lack of resources for such endeavour in Malaysia. The work JWM is doing has been communicated on two news sites⁴⁵, with a formalised collaboration with University of Malaysia’s Ecology Society to foster interest in addressing wildlife crime from the legal perspective.

Additionally, the international NGOs participating in the working group (Output 3) will collaborate with the aim to identify and implement more effective data sharing processes which will last outside of the project period.

This evidence project has the potential to be scaled across countries globally. Activities to improve data sharing processes and technology automation will enable the Media Monitoring programme to be implemented in additional countries, to additional private sector organisations and to cover additional types of environmental crime.

14. IWT Challenge Fund identity

As the project has only been running for 9 months, there have not yet been any published outputs. During the next reporting period EIA plans to release a prosecution analysis dashboard based on the data collected during the project, which will be public facing on the website as part of the Global Environmental Crime Tracker. Where possible, the IWT Challenge Fund logo will be included to promote this funded work.

In addition, JWM are publishing a paper on prosecution outcomes for IWT within Malaysia and will recognise the contribution from The Challenge Fund within the acknowledgements. This funding makes up a significant part of Project Minerva. Other activities under the project include understanding the motivation for committing wildlife crime (studying demographics) and reviewing wildlife-related legislations to address gaps and tailor interventions.

15. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes – Bill Dishington, Head of HR and Operations, [REDACTED]

⁴ <https://www.macaranga.org/what-happens-after-poachers-are-arrested/>

⁵ <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2023/03/15/step-up-efforts-to-halt-online-demand-for-wildlife-urge-ngos/>

Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 0%
<p>Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.</p> <p>There have been no safeguarding issues raised related to this project.</p>	
<p>Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.</p> <p>No safeguarding concerns have been raised or identified during this project.</p> <p>EIA maintains regular and frequent contact with its partners (particularly those in-country) and we expect them to state if there have been any safeguarding issues or other forms of discrimination that have taken place during the reporting period.</p> <p>EIA has several policies that ensure the safety of staff, partners and external contacts that EIA may engage with directly or indirectly. These include policies on: Safeguarding Adults, Children and Young People; and Safeguarding Codes of Conduct, Whistleblowing.</p> <p>All EIA policies were reviewed in March 2023 and re-circulated to all staff for access. The policies will be further reviewed by the Trustees in May 2023. They are available to staff via the intranet system.</p> <p>While formal training in these policies is not a requirement to date, all staff are provided with these documents as part of their induction process and are required to affirmatively confirm that they have received and read them, Staff are also reminded of the policies at 1-2-1 meetings and job reviews.</p>	

16. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2022-March 2023)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total actual IWTCF Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL				

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

17. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

Given the fact the project period only started 9 months ago, it would be premature to report any outstanding achievements during this reporting period.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2022-2023

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Increased transparency and scope of information on illegal wildlife trade trends enables more informed policy responses by governments and private sector and assists in targeting law enforcement responses.</p>		<p>Although the impact will be better gauged at the end of the project, several activities undertaken so far have contributed to increased transparency and scope of information, as mentioned in the impact statement. Currently, the number of incidents in the GECT has increased by over 8% since the start of the project, and the MMP has generated over 500 new profiles in KYC databases.</p> <p>EIA is continuing to engage with both national and international NGOs to further expand the GECT and MMP, including promoting both to UfW's Financial Taskforce, to improve data accessibility for governments and private sector, which should ideally allow for more informed policy responses and assist in targeting law enforcement, as mentioned in the impact statement.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>EIA's expanded Global Environmental Crime Tracker serves as a key resource on IWT trends for a range of public and private sector stakeholders, including financial institutions and law enforcement agencies</p>	<p>0.1 Number of seizure incidents available on EIA's Global Environmental Crime Tracker (GECT) increases by at least 10% by August 2023 from project activities</p> <p>0.2 Training will be provided to a minimum of 10 private sector organisations on the use of EIA's GECT</p>	<p>0.1 Between July 2022 and March 2023, 1,198 new incidents were added to GECT, which shows over 8% increase in incidents since the project began,</p> <p>0.2 Training will be provided after this reporting period.</p> <p>0.3 A survey was designed and disseminated by January 2023. This survey was also published on the homepage of the GECT to</p>	<p>0.1 EIA will continue to enter seizure incidents into the GECT to hit the target of a 10% increase. Additional data contribution provided by national CSOs from Malaysia, Nigeria and Vietnam, as well as members of the working group, will all contribute to this target.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	0.3 A minimum of 15 participants complete a survey to identify gaps in open-source data available on IWT	allow for maximum engagement. By March 2023, 15 participants have completed the survey. Although we have reached the target number of participants, the survey remains live on the GECT and is disseminated along with data files to keep a continuous feedback mechanism in place.	0.2 A minimum of 10 private sector organisations will be identified for EIA to provide training to regarding the GECT before the end of August 2023. 0.3 A target of 15 participants to complete the survey has been completed. The survey remains live on the GECT homepage for any additional response.
<p>Output 1.</p> <p>A publicly available resource on IWT which provides greater transparency of law enforcement efforts and analysis of trends to feed into future strategies to disrupt trafficking of key wildlife species</p>	<p>1.1 Number of national CSOs in target countries contributing data to the GECT increases. Baseline: 1 CSO in one country. Target: 1 CSO in each country by August 2023</p> <p>1.2 The number of prosecution outcomes and court records held within the GECT for target countries increases from 14% to 50% percent through additional research conducted</p> <p>1.3 Analysis of IWT trends in Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam will be disseminated to law enforcement agencies working in Africa and Asia, as well as the United for Wildlife transport taskforce. Target: 2 trend assessments disseminated by August 2023</p> <p>1.4 A minimum of 1 additional data layer is added to the GECT to improve analysis</p>	<p>1.1 1 CSO from a target country has contributed towards the seizure incidents in the GECT in the duration of the project so far. Whilst JWM has made progress in accessing prosecution outcome data from DWNP, it is currently undergoing cleansing and standardisation and will be added into the GECT after this reporting period. CSOs in Nigeria will also be contacted after this reporting period to fill in the gap of a CSO in Nigeria. The CSOs that have contributed data to the GECT is recorded in the 'Agency Contributor' field in the GECT. The difficulty EIA has faced in finding CSOs within the target countries that store IWT and are willing to disseminate to us reflects the difficulties and the lack in capacity of capturing IWT in these target countries, and potentially highlights resourcing issues.</p> <p>1.2 When the original project application was made, 14% of incidents within the GECT had recorded a conviction. Since the start of the project, it was clarified that this baseline should have been separated into two percentages, one baseline percentage for all countries and another specifically for the project's target countries. To reflect this, when the project started, 15.51% of incidents from all countries within the GECT and 11.45% of the target countries had a recorded conviction. At the end of March 15.38% of incidents from all countries within the GECT and 11.43% of the target countries had a recorded conviction. Although these percentages have decreased slightly, fluctuations throughout the project months have remained almost the same. We are aiming to increase these percentages over the next few months through continuing our engagement with target country CSOs and maintaining our efforts in accessing the relevant court case data.</p> <p>1.3 No trend assessments were disseminated during this reporting period. We are aiming to disseminate these over the next few months, so they will be reported on in the final project report.</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		1.4 An additional data layer will be designed and technically implemented over the next few months so will be reported on in the final project report.	
<p>Activity 1.1</p> <p>New Case Tracker role within Justice for Wildlife Malaysia will research and document cases of wildlife trafficking and prosecution outcomes to improve data records in EIA's Crime Tracker.</p>		<p>JWM hired a new court case tracker (Lavinia Augustine, Case Tracking Coordinator) at the start of this project in July 2022. The role has been tracking court cases and following up with the DWNP for relevant updates. Court case data has also been received from DWNP which is currently being reviewed and cleaned by JWM.</p>	<p>The data received by DWNP contains some inaccuracies which need to be clarified by the DWNP, and cross checked with the court registry. Further data needs to be attained from the judiciary. This data will be consolidated into an Excel file and imported into EIA's GECT.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2</p> <p>Outreach conducted to CSOs in Nigeria and Vietnam to share data on cases and prosecutions in-country.</p>		<p>EIA has communicated with ANI and WCS in Nigeria, through which it has become apparent that it is quite difficult for CSOs to obtain prosecution data in Nigeria. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>EIA will continue to identify CSOs within Nigeria and Vietnam that may be able to share data on cases and prosecutions in country. Progress on this will be reported on in the final project report.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3</p> <p>Collaborating with partners and key stakeholders, EIA will produce trend assessments on IWT trade routes, financial flows and methodology of wildlife trafficking in target countries which will be disseminated to national and international law enforcement agencies and members through United for Wildlife.</p>		<p>This activity is planned for 23-24.</p>	<p>Trend assessments reports relating to Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam will be produced and disseminated before August 2023, so will be reported on in the final project report.</p>
<p>Activity 1.4</p> <p>Training on the use of the Crime Tracker to key CSOs and government agencies in target countries through outreach.</p>		<p>EIA will be presenting to the members of UfW taskforces on the 23rd May 2023, to promote and demonstrate the use of the GECT and the MMP. In Malaysia, JWM has been provided with GECT training.</p>	<p>Training will be provided to government agencies in Nigeria, specifically the FIU.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Activity 1.5</p> <p>Working with tech consultants, identification and integration of additional data source to add to the Crime Tracker for analysis.</p>		NA	EIA will design the GECT's additional data layer once the MMP automation has been completed.
<p>Output 2.</p> <p>Improved knowledge and awareness of wildlife seizures assist the financial sector to improve identification of risks associated with money laundering and embedded into customer due diligence systems</p>	<p>2.1 The number of entity names provided to financial institutions through the media monitoring programme increases to an average of 300 per month by August 2023. Baseline: Average of 150 per month</p> <p>2.2 The number of banks and financial institutions signed up to the programme increases through expansion to the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce. Baseline: 11 companies. Target: 20 companies by August 2023</p> <p>2.3 Financial red flag documents and financial typologies from EIA's investigation and intelligence work will be shared with financial institutions and FIUs. Target: Minimum of 3 documents shared by August 2023</p> <p>2.4 A minimum of 350 new profiles created on third party data provider databases such as World Check for Know Your Customer (KYC) checks by August 2023</p>	<p>2.1 Between July 2022 and March 2023, EIA provided 1,295 entity names to financial institutions through the media monitoring programme. During which, 6 of the 9 months were averaged with 166 submissions per month, which is above the baseline of an average of 150 submissions per month. We observed lower submission in December 2022 with 67 submissions, February 2023 with 91 submissions and October 2022 with 141 submissions, which was due to staff members being on leave, as the submission process is currently manual. We hope to address this with automating the MMP, so that submissions will not be limited by staff capacity.</p> <p>2.2 As of March 2023, there have been no additional banks or financial institutions that have signed up to the MMP. This will be addressed through planned engagement with UfW and key institutions in target countries. This will be reported on in the final project report.</p> <p>2.3 1 of 3 financial typologies has been shared during this reporting period. Further reporting can be found under Activity 2.4 in this table.</p> <p>2.4 Between July 2022 and March 2023, EIA has submitted 1,295 entity names to financial institutions and due diligence agencies through the MMP. This has resulted in the creation of 573 new profiles and the updating of 166 pre-existing profiles in KYC databases, The minimum target of 350 new profiles has been achieved.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1</p> <p>EIA will employ tech consultants to automate Media Monitoring programme databases for efficient data sharing.</p>		Using the project funding, EIA hired a Database Manager (Royce To) who has been overseeing the automation of the MMP.	Once the automation has been internally tested, it will be technically implemented and rolled out with EIA updating all relevant participants and

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		The initial setup for the automation has been completed, and we are currently in the phase of internal testing. As this automation was achieved within the project team, EIA has not yet needed to employ a tec consultant.	recipients of the MMP of the official changes.
<p>Activity 2.2</p> <p>United for Wildlife will facilitate collaboration with Financial Taskforce members and EIA to include training and data sharing through the programme.</p>		EIA will be presenting to the members of UfW on the 23 rd May 2023, to promote the GECT and the MMP and to encourage more financial sector institutions to sign up to receive data.	Preparation is underway for the presentation on 23 rd May 2023. The automation of the MMP is being finalised and is planned for roll out before this presentation takes place so that its expansion can be sustainable.
<p>Activity 2.3</p> <p>Identification of key banks and financial institutions in target countries to sign up to the programme and receive data.</p>		Key banks have been identified in Malaysia through JWM's pre-existing network, which includes the Central Bank of Malaysia. JWM will be attending an AMLA workshop in Indonesia to expedite the discussions with the Central Bank of Malaysia.	Key banks in Nigeria and Vietnam have been identified through ongoing work at EIA and through EIA's partnership with UfW. These banks will all be contacted once the MMP has switched to a fully automated system so that this expansion is sustainable.
<p>Activity 2.4</p> <p>Production of financial red flag documents to share with public and private financial sector on IWT.</p>		Through match funding for the project, EIA produced a financial typology detailing illicit financial flows linked to Vietnamese networks involved in illegal wildlife trafficking. This was shared with the UfW Financial Taskforce in February 2023 to disseminate to financial sector partners.	Additional red flag documents will be produced and disseminated by August 2023. Details of this will be included in the final project report.
<p>Output 3.</p> <p>Increased collaboration between international NGOs on sharing data and identification of joint working opportunities for a publicly available platform of wildlife crime, intelligence and conservation data</p>	<p>3.1 EIA will sign MOUs with at least two NGOs who regularly collect IWT seizure data</p> <p>3.2 Data is shared monthly between members of the working group and reflected in EIA's database</p> <p>3.3 At least two virtual roundtable working groups will be held to discuss obstacles with databases of publicly available data</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>3.4 A proposal for a tech solution to create a collaborative platform is written</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>3.4 A tech solution to create a collaborative platform will be written shortly after the final working group virtual roundtable has been held.</p>	
<p>Activity 3.1</p> <p>Engagement with NGOs collecting wildlife crime data to agree regular data sharing</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>EIA will continue to engage other NGOs to sign up ISA to regularly share IWT data.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Activity 3.2</p> <p>Creation of a working group with key stakeholders to discuss issues with data collection for wildlife crime and challenges with sharing information</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Invitations will be sent out to the listed participants to join the working group once the planning has been finalised. This outcome of these discussions will be reported on in the final project report.</p>
<p>Activity 3.3</p> <p>Scoping and comprehensive gap analysis carried out on current or developing platforms for wildlife crime data</p>		<p>A survey was designed and disseminated to known recipients of data from EIA's database. The survey link was also published on EIA's GECT homepage for users of the GECT. So far, there have been 15 participants who have responded, which was the target as detailed in the project's logical framework.</p>	<p>The feedback provided from this survey will be incorporated into the planning of the GECT expansion and be taken into consideration for future projects.</p> <p>The survey remains live on the GECT homepage and is still disseminated along with data files to keep a continuous feedback mechanism in place.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.4 Proposal document produced on future collaborative platform, costed out and partners identified		NA	This activity will carry out upon the completion of Activity 3.2, and will be included in the final project report.

Annex 2: Project’s full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: Increased transparency and scope of information on illegal wildlife trade trends enables more informed policy responses by governments and private sector and assists in targeting law enforcement responses. (Max 30 words)</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) EIA’s expanded Global Environmental Crime Tracker serves as a key resource on IWT trends for a range of public and private sector stakeholders, including financial institutions and law enforcement agencies</p>	<p>.1 Number of seizure incidents available on EIA’s Global Environmental Crime Tracker (GECT) increases by at least 10% by August 2023 from project activities 0.2 Training will be provided to a minimum of 10 private sector organisations on the use of EIA’s GECT 0.3 A minimum of 15 participants complete a survey to identify gaps in open-source</p>	<p>.1 Seizure figures from EIA database. 0.2 Feedback forms completed by private sector organisations on training. 0.3 Analysis of survey results, survey forms. 0.4 Through the website, EIA’s Global Environmental Crime Tracker provides additional data other than seizure and prosecutions.</p>	<p>Seizure incidents for key countries are available through open sources. Financial institutions regard potential exposure to money laundering linked to wildlife crime as an issue of concern</p>
<p>Output 1 1. A publicly available resource on IWT which provides greater transparency of law enforcement efforts and analysis of trends to feed into future strategies to disrupt trafficking of key wildlife species.</p>	<p>1.1 Number of national CSOs in target countries contributing data to the GECT increases. Baseline: 1 CSO in one country. Target: 1 CSO in each country by August 2023. 1.2 The number of prosecution outcomes and court records held within the GECT for target countries increases from 14% to 50% percent through additional research conducted 1.3. Analysis of IWT trends in Nigeria, Malaysia and Vietnam will be disseminated to law enforcement agencies working in Africa and Asia, as well as the United for Wildlife transport taskforce. Target: 2 trend assessments disseminated by August 2023. 1.4 A minimum of 1 additional</p>	<p>1.1 EIA seizure database ‘Agency contributor’ field 1.2 EIA seizure database ‘Led to prosecution’ field 1.3 EIA disseminations tracker 1.4 Through the website, EIA’s Global Environmental Crime Tracker provides additional data other than seizure and prosecutions. 1.5 Publication of national record of wildlife related court cases for Malaysia that is peer reviewed</p>	<p>Civil-society entities across Africa and Asia demonstrate willingness to collaborate and partner with international NGOs to share data Prosecution and court records for key countries are available through open sources. Technology consultants can be contracted to provide advice and identify options to add additional data to the GECT</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	data layer is added to the GECT to improve analysis		
<p>Output 2 Improved knowledge and awareness of wildlife seizures assist the financial sector to improve identification of risks associated with money laundering and embedded into customer due diligence systems</p>	<p>EIA's investigation and intelligence work will be shared with financial institutions and FIUs. Target: Minimum of 3 documents shared by August 2023. 2.4 A minimum of 350 new profiles created on third party data provider databases such as World Check for Know Your Customer (KYC) checks by August 2023.</p>	<p>.2 Airtable statistics of entity names and date of submission to databases field. 2.3 The media monitoring recipient database held by EIA. 2.3 EIA dissemination tracker and sanitised versions of the red flag documents 2.4 Feedback forms from recipients on result of entity name through Airtable</p>	<p>Financial institutions regard potential exposure to money laundering linked to wildlife crime as an issue of concern UFW Financial Taskforce members attend introductory webinar and engage with the programme Technological improvements to the system can be achieved through consultancy to allow for automation of the data flow Current recipients of IWT entity names can manage to process and the increase in data sent to them and can provide feedback Banks' customer due diligence procedures are sufficiently robust to avoid offering services to individuals and companies implicated in IWT cases included in databases Research and investigations yield sufficient relevant information for typologies to be produced</p>
<p>Output 3 Increased collaboration between international NGOs on sharing data and identification of joint working opportunities for a publicly available platform of wildlife crime, intelligence and conservation data</p>	<p>3.1 EIA will sign MOUs with at least two NGOs who regularly collect IWT seizure data 3.2 Data is shared monthly between members of the working group and reflected in EIA's database 3.3 At least two virtual roundtable working groups will be held to discuss obstacles with databases of publicly available data 3.4 A proposal for a tech solution</p>	<p>3.1 Sanitised versions of MOU documents 3.2 EIA dissemination tracker and seizure database 3.3 Working group notes detailing discussion points and actions (sanitised as necessary) 3.4 Summary of proposal shared</p>	<p>International NGOs and national CSOs are willing and have the capacity to join a working group on seizure and crime data collection Key international NGOs are willing and have capacity to collaborate on joint projects and regularly share data An agreement on a joint tech solution can be reached between members of the working group</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	to create a collaborative platform is written		
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1 Outcome: A publicly available resource on IWT which provides greater transparency of law enforcement efforts and analysis of trends to feed into future strategies to disrupt trafficking of key wildlife species.</p> <p>1.1 New Case Tracker role within Justice for Wildlife Malaysia will research and document cases of wildlife trafficking and prosecution outcomes to improve data records in EIA's Crime Tracker.</p> <p>1.2 Outreach conducted to CSOs in Nigeria and Vietnam to share data on cases and prosecutions in-country.</p> <p>1.3 Collaborating with partners and key stakeholders, EIA will produce trend assessments on IWT trade routes, financial flows and methodology of wildlife trafficking in target countries which will be disseminated to national and international law enforcement agencies and members through United for Wildlife.</p> <p>1.4 Training on the use of the Crime Tracker to key CSOs and government agencies in target countries through outreach.</p> <p>1.5 Working with tech consultants, identification and integration of additional data source to add to the Crime Tracker for analysis.</p> <p>2. Outcome: Improved knowledge and awareness of wildlife seizures assist the financial sector to improve identification of risks associated with money laundering and embedded into customer due diligence systems.</p> <p>2.1 EIA will employ tech consultants to automate Media Monitoring programme databases for efficient data sharing.</p> <p>2.2 United for Wildlife will facilitate collaboration with Financial Taskforce members and EIA to include training and data sharing through the programme.</p> <p>2.3 Identification of key banks and financial institutions in target countries to sign up to the programme and receive data.</p> <p>2.4 Production of financial red flag documents to share with public and private financial sector on IWT.</p> <p>3. Outcome: Increased collaboration between international NGOs on sharing data and identification of joint working opportunities for a publicly available platform of wildlife crime, intelligence and conservation data</p> <p>3.1 Engagement with NGOs collecting wildlife crime data to agree regular data sharing.</p> <p>3.2 Creation of a working group with key stakeholders to discuss issues with data collection for wildlife crime and challenges with sharing information.</p> <p>3.3 Scoping and comprehensive gap analysis carried out on current or developing platforms for wildlife crime data</p> <p>3.4 Proposal document produced on future collaborative platform, costed out and partners identified.</p>			

Annex 3 Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

IWTCF Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with IWTCF Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
IWTCF-D03	A new case tracker role within JWM	A new case tracker role within JWM is funded to improve the capability and capacity for a local/national organisation	Number	None	1			1	1
IWTCF-D23	Number of records added into the GECT	Number of records added to EIA's publicly available Crime Tracker between July 2022 and March 2023	Number	None	1198			1198	>1478
IWTCF-D26	An additional layer is added to the GECT	An additional layer is added to EIA's global Environmental Crime Tracker to enhance tools/approaches developed for tackling IWT	Number	Layers	0			0	1
IWTCF-D27	Number of agreements signed with NGOs and national CSOs to regularly share data with	Number of partnerships established with international NGOs and national CSOs (a minimum of 3 in each target country)	Number	None	1			1	3

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER POACHERS ARE ARRESTED?	Blog	Nor Arlina Amirah Ahmad Ghani	Female	Malaysian	Macaranga	https://www.macaranga.org/what-happens-after-poachers-are-arreste

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the subject line.	X
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	N/A
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	N/A
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	N/A
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	