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# **IWTEVR11\1088**

## **Creating evidence and empowering Bolivian communities against Illegal Wildlife Trade**

This project aims to build critical evidence to address knowledge gaps on illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia, focusing on the Titicaca Water Frog and including other species. It will investigate market dynamics, consumer behaviour, and sustainable livelihood options through market surveys and research in both rural and urban settings. The findings will inform future demand reduction strategies for the frog, alongside poverty reduction efforts that will aim to provide sustainable alternatives for communities affected by illegal trade around Lake Titicaca.

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Surname** Gill  
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## CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Alan  
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# IWTEVR11\1088

Creating evidence and empowering Bolivian communities against Illegal Wildlife Trade

## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Name** Caroline  
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**Organisation** TRAFFIC International  
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**Address** [REDACTED]

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
Name	TRAFFIC International
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]





## Section 2 - Title, Themes, Species & Summary

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### Q3. Title:

Creating evidence and empowering Bolivian communities against Illegal Wildlife Trade

Please upload a cover letter as a PDF document.

-  [TRAFFIC Cover letter IWT CF BO Frog](#)
-  28/10/2024
-  13:26:17
-  pdf 327.06 KB

### Q4a. Is this a resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application to any of the Biodiversity Challenge Funds?

No

### Q5. Which of the four key IWT Challenge Fund themes will your project address?

Please tick all that apply. Note that projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score, and ticking themes that your project does not address may negatively affect project scores.

- Reducing demand for IWT products
- Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT

### Q6. Species project is focusing on

Please include both the common name and scientific name.

Titicaca Water Frog (*Telmatobius culeus*) *No Response*

*No Response* *No Response*

### Do you require more fields?

No

### Q7. Summary of project

**Please provide a brief non-technical summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.**

This project aims to build critical evidence to address knowledge gaps on illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia, focusing on the Titicaca Water Frog and including other species. It will investigate market dynamics, consumer behaviour, and sustainable livelihood options through market surveys and research in both rural and urban settings. The findings will inform future demand reduction strategies for the frog, alongside poverty reduction efforts that will aim to provide sustainable alternatives for communities affected by illegal trade around Lake Titicaca.

## Section 3 - Countries, Dates & Budget Summary

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### Q8. Country(ies)

**Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in?**

Country 1	Bolivia	Country 2	No Response
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

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**Do you require more fields?**

No

### Q9. Project dates

<b>Start date:</b>	<b>End date:</b>	<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):</b>
01 April 2025	30 June 2026	1 year, 3 months

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### Q10. Budget summary

Year:	2025/26	2026/27	Total Request
Amount:	£85,090.00	£14,587.62	99,677.62

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### Q11. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

**Please ensure you clearly outline your matched funding arrangement in the budget.**

**Q12. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will deliver the project if you don't manage to secure this?**

Confirmed matched funding comes entirely from BAI's existing work in the Lake Titicaca area and is estimated at £3000, covering equipment such as field generator, a projector and computers that will be used in workshops, plus additional staff time and logistics costs.

## Q13. Have you received, applied for or plan to apply for any other UK Government funding for the proposed project or similar?

No

## Section 4 - Problem statement & Gap in existing approaches

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### Q14. Problem the project is trying to address

**Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of illegal wildlife trade and its relationship with poverty. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?**

**Please describe the level of threat to the species concerned. You should also explain which communities are affected by this issue, and how this aspect of the illegal trade in wildlife relates to poverty or efforts of people and/or states to reduce poverty.**

The illegal trade of the Endangered Titicaca Water Frog (*Telmatobius culeus*), poses an existential threat to its survival. Found only in Lake Titicaca, a Key Biodiversity Area shared by Bolivia and Peru, this species is harvested for consumption, particularly in urban markets where it is sold for medicinal and nutritional purposes [1,16,18]. The Titicaca Water Frog faces further risks from habitat degradation, pollution, and disease [10,16,18]. Despite legal protections under CITES Appendix I [10], enforcement remains weak, allowing illegal trade to persist [7,16].

In Bolivia, indigenous communities near Lake Titicaca rely on subsistence activities and remain vulnerable to food insecurity [9]. The project recognises the potential to develop sustainable livelihoods for these communities by exploring legal, eco-friendly alternatives, such as community-based tourism centred on the Titicaca Water Frog as a flagship species. Initiatives like the Sicuani community's ecotourism model [7] demonstrate the potential for socio-economic benefits while promoting species conservation.

Outputs 1 and 2 will build the evidence needed to reduce the illegal trade and demand for the Titicaca Water Frog in urban centres, while also shedding light on rural consumption in vulnerable indigenous communities around Lake Titicaca. These communities are further impoverished by illegal wildlife trade (IWT) when species like the frog, which hold material value as food as well as cultural significance within their cosmovision (A. Muñoz, pers. comm.), are depleted for external markets. Output 3's livelihood feasibility study will explore sustainable, potentially legal uses of the frog, including non-extractive activities such as eco-tourism, which could provide socio-economic benefits while preserving the species [6]. This dual approach will address both the reduction of IWT and poverty alleviation. By understanding the feasibility of such alternatives, the project aims to ensure that the communities can benefit from the frog as a resource, while reducing unsustainable trade in other parts of Bolivia and onwards to Peru. The evidence gained will inform future interventions that target both the species' conservation and the well-being of indigenous communities.

### Q15. Gap in existing approaches

**What gap does your project fill in existing approaches? Evidence projects should describe how the improved evidence base will be used to design an intervention and the gap the intervention will fill.**

This project addresses a critical knowledge gap in the illegal trade and consumption of the Endangered Titicaca Water Frog, highlighted as a global concern since 2004 [10]. Despite legal protection under Bolivia's Supreme Decree 25458 and Environmental Law 1333, no specific national conservation measures exist for the frog [1]. A

prior study emphasized the need for more research on consumption patterns and drivers, which this project will update, extending beyond indigenous communities to urban markets where the species is illegally consumed [4].

The project also targets gaps in Bolivia's illegal wildlife trade, where limited data hampers understanding of extraction levels[5]. Other target species include parrots, macaws (e.g., *Amazona aestiva*, *Brotogeris* spp., *Ara* spp.), and monkeys (e.g., *Sapajus apella*, *Alouatta* spp.) for the pet trade, and deer, tapir, and agouti consumed as bushmeat. The belief-based use of the Near-Threatened Maned Wolf is undocumented [18]. River turtles are affected by egg consumption (*Podocnemis* spp.) and the illegal pet trade (*Chelonoidis* sp.).

The livelihoods feasibility study will provide evidence to inform poverty reduction in Lake Titicaca communities, while consumer research on the Titicaca Water Frog will guide future demand reduction strategies through audience segmentation, identifying drivers and deterrents for positive behaviour and messaging.

## Section 5 - Objectives & Commitments

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### Q16. Which national and international objectives and commitments does this project contribute towards?

**Consider national plans such as NBSAPs and commitments such as London Conference Declarations and the Kasane and Hanoi Statements. Please provide the number(s) of the relevant commitments and some brief information on how your project will contribute to them. There is no need to include the text from the relevant commitment.**

Outputs 1 and 2 will generate critical evidence on illegal wildlife trade market dynamics, consumer behaviour and demand drivers, aligning with key international and national commitments, such as Supreme Decree No. 3048 in Bolivia's Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2030, which regulates wildlife trade and criminalizes unauthorized activities involving protected species. These outputs contribute to Strategic Objective 3.2 of the plan by supporting prevention and eradication of illegal wildlife trafficking [5]. The outputs also contribute to KMGBF Targets 5, 9 and 16 and the respective Lima and Cartagena Declarations from the 1st and 2nd High Level Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Americas [19]. Both outputs respond to recommendations in Bolivia's Amphibian Conservation Action plan [6].

Outputs 1 and 2 support CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 Goals 2.4 and 2.5 [2] by addressing information gaps to inform conservation decisions, particularly aligning with CITES Decision 19.197 from COP19 on amphibian conservation, which calls for evaluating trade levels, gathering data on amphibian harvesting, and improving enforcement efforts [20]. They also align with the London Declaration on Illegal Wildlife Trade [3], calling for targeted global efforts to reduce demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.

Output 3 focuses on sustainable livelihoods in Lake Titicaca communities, supporting Bolivia's "Agenda Patriótica del Bicentenario 2025" and the Plurinational Policy for Sustainable Biodiversity Management [5]. In support of Action D of the London Declaration [3], Output 3 aims to reduce poverty by building local capacity while promoting socio-ecological resilience and reducing dependency on illegal wildlife trade.

## Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, GESI & Post Project Sustainability

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### Q17. Methodology

**Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome. Provide information on:**

- How you have reflected on and incorporated evidence and lessons learnt from past and present activities and projects in the design of this project.

- The specific approach you are using, supported by evidence that it will be effective and justifying why you expect it will be successful in this context.
- How you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods).
- What the main activities will be and where these will take place.
- How you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).
- How you have engaged with partners or communities involved to design the project; if this has not been done please explain why.

This project addresses critical knowledge gaps in Bolivia's illegal wildlife trade (IWT), especially regarding the Titicaca Water Frog, a CITES listed Appendix I species. Outputs 1 and 2 of the project build on TRAFFIC's prior DEFRA-supported research generating insight on IWT target behaviours, audiences and taxa in Peru, which identified the Titicaca Water Frog as a priority species of concern in the region [21].

Existing literature [1,5] indicates that prior conservation efforts for the Titicaca Water Frog are focused on pollution rather than illegal trade [18], despite information from various sources highlighting the latter as an existential threat [1,5,6]. McPhie's 2016 study [4] documented frog consumption in rural Lake Titicaca communities, but evidence suggests that illegal trade extends to urban centres, despite being prohibited under Bolivian law. The World Bank's "Lake Titicaca Local Sustainable Development Project" ended in 2015 and is no longer active [8].

The project's aim to establish a robust evidence base will guide targeted and behaviourally informed interventions to reduce demand for the illegally traded Titicaca Water Frog and address poverty in the Lake Titicaca area. The success of future poverty reduction initiatives is anticipated due to early and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)-sensitive community participation including co-design processes.

Market monitoring (Output 1) will leverage TRAFFIC's expertise in identifying and analysing illegal wildlife trade through a combination of online and physical surveys. TRAFFIC staff will train a local researcher with relevant experience to monitor ten social media platforms and one e-commerce site for patterns and trends. This will be supplemented by an analysis of wildlife seizure records from the past five years using TRAFFIC tools. The researcher will also receive training on safeguarding and research protocols to conduct physical surveys in up to six Bolivian markets, potentially with the accompaniment of a TRAFFIC staff member.

Consumer research (Output 2) will investigate consumption patterns, behaviours, and the drivers and deterrents associated with human factors affecting the Titicaca Water Frog. Methods will include social research such as in-person focus groups targeting buyers from markets and rural Lake Titicaca communities, disaggregated by gender and indigenous status. Focus groups will be complemented by surveys in markets and interviews with key influencers (e.g. community leaders, traditional healers, authorities). Data will be analysed with attention to gender and ethnicity to meet GESI standards [18]. Social listening studies will also be conducted across online platforms to track consumer activity in urban centres. Safeguarding measures will be in place for all research activities.

Findings from the market and consumer research will be synthesized into a Situation Analysis by the Project Manager and shared with the Bolivian CITES Management Authority to facilitate a Bolivian submission at COP20. Aspects of this report may also be shared as a CITES Information Document.

Output 3 will assess sustainable livelihood options in Lake Titicaca communities involved in Titicaca Water Frog harvest, trade and consumption. Initial workshops and focus groups in target communities will for the first time, document the importance of the Titicaca Water Frog as a livelihood commodity in the local economy and identify the scope and perceived attractiveness of possible livelihood alternatives, followed by economic analysis to evaluate feasibility. Co-design workshops for each gender will refine the assessment, incorporating community input before finalizing the report. This process ensures alignment with local needs, enhancing the likelihood of

sustainable outcomes. Results from Outputs 1, 2, and 3 will be compiled into a final report (Output 4), with tailored sub-reports for key stakeholders. Findings will inform future conservation efforts and policymaking in Bolivia.

The project will be led by the project manager responsible for coordination, outreach, M&E and reporting, supported by two TRAFFIC staff members. One of these will also provide training and support for the market study under Output 1, if possible, by physically accompanying the relevant researcher. BAI will provide support for in-country coordination, outreach, administration, research supervision, logistics and liaison with Lake Titicaca communities. All researchers will be selected through open tender and a BAI staff member will assist and accompany the selected researchers, thus developing local capacity in social and physical market research. Project management will use tools like SharePoint and One Drive, with risks minimized through careful planning, role assignments, regular communication, and coordination and progress meetings.

BAI's long-standing presence and established relationships with stakeholders, including community consent for social research activities, will facilitate smooth project execution, enhancing the project's overall impact

## **Q18. Capability and Capacity**

**How will the project support the strengthening of capability and capacity of identified local and national partners, and stakeholders during its lifetime organisational or individual levels?**

Outputs 1 and 2 will fill critical knowledge gaps in Bolivia's capacity to regulate illegal wildlife trade, benefiting authorities such as DGBAP, the CITES Management Authority, and POFOMA, by providing robust evidence for targeted seizures and coordinated knowledge management, an urgent need identified in the Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2030 [5]. This evidence will also help authorities make informed interventions and recommendations at international forums.

The project will strengthen the capacity of the Bolivian Amphibian Initiative (BAI) by providing training opportunities for BAI staff across all project outputs. Staff will learn and apply project methodologies, enabling them to use these skills for future conservation projects, particularly in areas like GESI. This aligns with BAI's ongoing initiative in Isla de la Luna, where they work with local women to promote gender equality. Through this project, not only BAI staff, but also women from local communities will be involved from the outset, benefiting from training and empowerment. This will facilitate future interventions by BAI and lay the groundwork for the next stage of this project, which will build on the information gathered.

Output 3, which explores sustainable livelihood options for Aymara communities around Lake Titicaca, home to the Titicaca Water Frog, will provide rigorous evidence to inform future poverty reduction initiatives. The co-design process will empower communities, particularly women, by reflecting Isla de la Luna's spiritual significance for Aymara women and supporting BAI's gender-focused efforts.

Finally, Outputs 1 and 2 will enhance BAI's capacity to promote its policy brief on managing Titicaca Water Frog seizures. Insights from the project will enable BAI to lead workshops with law enforcement and government, building capacity to implement the protocol effectively.

## **Q19. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)**

**All applicants must consider how their project will contribute to promoting equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Please include reference to the GESI context in which your project seeks to work in.**

The project acknowledges the GESI context in Bolivia, particularly in the Lake Titicaca region, where indigenous communities like the Aymara face systemic exclusion from economic opportunities and decision-making. Bolivia's status as a pluri-national state underscores the need to recognize diverse indigenous identities and ensure equitable representation across social and gender groups. Women from various ethnic backgrounds face

barriers, such as limited access to education, economic opportunities, and leadership roles, restricting their participation in community and environmental management [9].

#### Understanding Exclusion and Addressing Barriers:

The project addresses these disparities by integrating Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and safeguarding as core principles in all community engagement activities. FPIC ensures that participation is voluntary, informed, and culturally appropriate, respecting community autonomy. Research methods will involve both male and female BAI staff to separate respondents by gender. This approach allows for a nuanced understanding of how different groups are impacted by or involved in illegal wildlife trade, including consumers, traders, and those facing poverty. This will enable the project to address the unique needs of marginalized groups and women across Bolivia.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes:

The co-design process in Output 3 emphasizes meaningful participation from Lake Titicaca communities, focusing on developing sustainable livelihood strategies. Special emphasis will be placed on Aymara women in Isla de la Luna, recognizing their cultural heritage and roles in community and environmental stewardship, fostering self-governance and resilience. In other outputs, the project will involve men and women from various ethnic groups to ensure inclusive approaches in all research activities.

Outputs 1 and 2 will apply GESI principles by disaggregating data by gender and indigenous status, identifying differences in consumption patterns, market dynamics, and behaviours among diverse social groups, including those involved in illegal trade. This data will inform interventions that address conservation and social inequalities, ensuring demand reduction strategies do not disproportionately affect vulnerable populations. Insights will help authorities develop inclusive policies that reflect the needs of those directly impacted by the trade.

#### Ensuring Meaningful Participation and Mitigating Negative Impacts:

The project maintains FPIC and fosters inclusive spaces for diverse groups through culturally sensitive engagement methods. Workshops, capacity-building activities, and consultations will encourage participation from women and indigenous groups, integrating their perspectives into project design. This approach dismantles participation barriers and fosters equitable outcomes.

To minimize negative impacts on poverty or inequalities, the project will monitor activities to assess their effects on different groups, adjusting to mitigate risks and maximize benefits, particularly for vulnerable populations. Formal safeguarding protocols from BAI and TRAFFIC will ensure safe environments for staff, researchers, and community members. Particularly for local communities, this includes guaranteed anonymity, freedom of speech with no fear of negative consequences, and no false promises regarding potential future livelihood improvements.

#### Post-Project Value:

The project's focus on GESI and FPIC will enhance capacity, inclusive decision-making, and equitable opportunities. The evidence and skills gained will support future initiatives, empowering communities and authorities to address environmental and social challenges in Bolivia.

## **Q20. Change expected**

**Detail the expected changes to both illegal wildlife trade and poverty reduction this work will deliver. You should identify what evidence will be gathered and how it might be used to inform future interventions. Please include who will benefit from these interventions, considering both people and species of focus a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended) and the potential scalability of the approach.**

**When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.**

In the short term the project will deliver critical evidence on IWT in Bolivia, where this issue remains largely undocumented [5].

Output 1 will document IWT offer and internal trade routes, filling knowledge gaps essential for future interventions and benefiting law enforcement (e.g. POFOMA – the environmental police) and government agencies (DGBPA) along with other relevant stakeholders such as Bolivia’s two CITES authorities.

Output 2 will gather insights on consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog, with the findings documented as a TRAFFIC-led demand reduction strategy shared with Bolivian authorities managing illegal wildlife trade. Early insights could also be used to inform discussion in official training for the LAC region in the CITES Guidance on Demand Reduction, which TRAFFIC authored and will lead the technical components of for the CITES Secretariat.

Output 3 will use an empowering co-design process separately involving at least 270 indigenous men and women to assess the feasibility of identified sustainable livelihood alternatives to Titicaca Frog harvesting and use. The extended consultation process, culminating in full co-design with a view to informing future co-creation, will indirectly contribute to poverty reduction by empowering indigenous men and women, enhancing their sense of agency and self-governance—values that are particularly significant in Aymara society around Lake Titicaca. Special emphasis will be placed on documenting the viability of livelihood options that benefit women, drawing on the ancestral significance of Lake Titicaca in indigenous lore, particularly the female-centred traditions of Isla de la Luna where BAI have established lasting and effective presence.

In the longer term, findings will inform future interventions aimed primarily at reducing the illegal trade of the Titicaca Water Frog. However, any evidence gathered on other species from Output 1 will also support Bolivia’s broader efforts to curb illegal wildlife trade at national, regional, or local levels, potentially including law enforcement strengthening and demand reduction campaigns targeting additional priority species. Communities around Lake Titicaca will benefit from co-created initiatives informed by the livelihood feasibility study, providing alternatives to illegal wildlife trade. The behaviourally informed demand reduction approach issuing from evidence gained in Output 2 is scalable across Bolivia and can be applied to other species and regions, e.g. trans-nationally with Peru around Lake Titicaca focusing on the Titicaca Water Frog.

The species of focus, particularly the Titicaca Water Frog, will benefit from enhanced protection informed by the project’s findings.

## **Q21. Pathway to change**

**Please outline your project’s expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, in the longer term, impacts on IWT and poverty reduction.**

The project aims to fill critical knowledge gaps around market dynamics, consumer behaviour, and community livelihoods to protect endangered wildlife species in Bolivia from illegal trade. Output 1 will address general knowledge gaps by documenting the illegal harvesting and trade of multiple species, including the CITES Appendix I-listed Titicaca Water Frog [10]. This output will also inform the priority species focus for Output 2,

which will explore consumer behaviour, key drivers, and deterrents of demand for illegally traded species, with a primary focus on the Titicaca Water Frog.

Meanwhile, Output 3 will assess the feasibility of sustainable livelihood alternatives for Aymara communities around Lake Titicaca. This will establish a foundation for future demand reduction initiatives targeting the Titicaca Water Frog, while also addressing poverty reduction goals in the region. The co-design process will ensure solutions are culturally appropriate and community driven.

Together, the outputs will provide the evidence needed to guide national and local interventions. Over the long term, the project will enable authorities, conservation partners and communities to implement effective policies and programs, contributing to the reduction of illegal wildlife trade and improving economic resilience.

## **Q22. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential**

### **Q22a. How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will you ensure your data and evidence will be accessible to others?**

As an evidence-building project, this initiative provides updated data through Outputs 1 and 2 on illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia, addressing a critical knowledge gap identified in the Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2030 [5], which, incidentally, entirely overlooks the Titicaca Water Frog. BAI staff will gain skills in social and market research by shadowing and supporting the respective research processes. Post-funding, findings will be shared with authorities via reports and strategies for future implementation, ensuring long-term accessibility and informing law enforcement and conservation efforts.

The insights from Outputs 2 and 3 will guide TRAFFIC's and BAI's follow-up efforts, combining poverty reduction initiatives with a behaviour change campaign, to reduce demand for the Titicaca Water Frog. The data and co-designed recommendations from the livelihood's feasibility study will direct future interventions to support sustainable livelihoods, reinforcing BAI's pilot work with Lake Titicaca communities, and prepare for scaling these initiatives in partnership with TRAFFIC.

### **Q22b. If your approach works, what potential is there for scaling the approach further? What might prevent scaling, and how could this be addressed?**


The project has strong potential for scaling through evidence-based interventions, including strengthening law enforcement to curb the illegal trade of Titicaca Water Frogs from Bolivia to Peru, coordinating with relevant partners if engaged. A behaviourally informed demand reduction campaign can be scaled locally and bi-nationally, while promoting poverty reduction through sustainable alternatives to frog harvesting.


The evidence will support CITES processes, including Decision 19.197 updates, and TRAFFIC's regional training on Demand Reduction directed at CITES Parties in LAC. Potential barriers, like data gaps, can be managed by focused early-stage research in a future implementation phase. Other challenges, such as limited institutional capacity, can be mitigated through targeted capacity building and partnerships. Cross-border efforts with Peru would leverage the expertise of the Autoridad Binacional del Lago Titicaca (ALT) and align with the bilateral agreement to protect Lake Titicaca's species [22]


**If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:**

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 [References & Map\\_BO Evidence \(3\)](#)

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## Section 7 - Risk Management

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### Q23. Risk Management

Please outline the 7 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the Risk Guidance. This should include at least one Fiduciary, two Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Inherent Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
<b>Fiduciary</b> Project funds diverted from their intended purpose, through corruption.	Major	Possible	Major	TRAFFIC uses tools to manage corruption risk, including a corruption risk review, a Countercorruption Coordinator, and a Countercorruption Strategy. It follows strict donor financial guidelines, with a Financial Policies and Procedures Manual detailing financial controls, fund usage, reporting, and a multi-level approval process for monitoring expenditures.	Minor
<b>Safeguarding (SEAH)</b> Personal safety of field researcher may be compromised during the physical market survey, given the illegal nature of the inquiry and busy market locations. Similar risks (especially SEAH) also apply to the social researcher and to respondents of the consumer study.	Severe	Possible	Severe	TRAFFIC provides guidance on sensitive activity and a code of conduct for safety. Researchers will be trained on security protocols and accompanied by experienced staff. An open tender will recruit skilled researchers who meet the relevant safeguarding requirements. One-to-one interviews with consumers/community members, will require a chaperone.	Minor

<b>Safeguarding (HSS)</b>	<p>Health and safety risks exist for project staff and consultants engaging in road travel in Bolivia due potentially dangerous road conditions and other inherent risks, e.g. politically-induced and sometimes violent road blockades (particularly liable to happen around the Presidential elections in August 2025)</p>	Major	Possible	major	<p>Travel for market research will use domestic flights. Local road travel will use taxis or reputable bus companies. All researchers will be Bolivian nationals to minimize attention. No field activities will occur during unstable periods such as elections. All staff and consultants will have medical insurance and repatriation coverage.</p>	Minor
<b>Delivery Chain</b>	<p>Potentially polemic presidential elections in Bolivia risk disrupting public services and road travel during the month of August 2025, impacting the timely delivery of project activities requiring access to markets and communities.</p>	Major	Likely	Severe	<p>No activities involving fieldwork, travel or the participation of government agencies are planned to coincide with the month of August 2025. The Project Manager's 2nd visit to Bolivia to present results of the Market Study to the CITES MA will occur after the election period, in late September 2025.</p>	Minor
<b>Risk 5</b>	<p>Political will and engagement with key government agencies falters during project implementation and/or government departments in the project country reject the research findings and recommendations.</p>	Major	Possible	Major	<p>TRAFFIC has established the full support of BAI, which already has working relationships with the relevant government bodies. With the help of BAI and the British Embassy we will continue to engage with these agencies throughout project period, ensuring high profile and influence results from their involvement with the project.</p>	Minor
<b>Risk 6</b>	<p>Adverse currency exchange rates and/or high in country inflation means that insufficient funds to implement activities as planned and costed (October 2024).</p>	Moderate	Possible	Moderate	<p>Exchange rates and in-country inflation will be continuously monitored and impact on planned activities assessed at least every six months. If necessary, and in agreement with DEFRA, planned activities will be modified to accommodate budget shortfalls (for example, reduction of TRAFFIC travel days).</p>	Minor

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**Risk 7**

Gender dynamics among Lake Titicaca indigenous communities limit the participation of women in research activities.

Major

Possible

Major

The research team will include two women from BAI, experienced in the target area. They can address gender dynamics and ensure female voices are included in research work and findings. Efforts will be made to ensure fair gender representation at all project meetings and workshops.

Minor

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## Section 8 - Project Sensitivities and Workplan

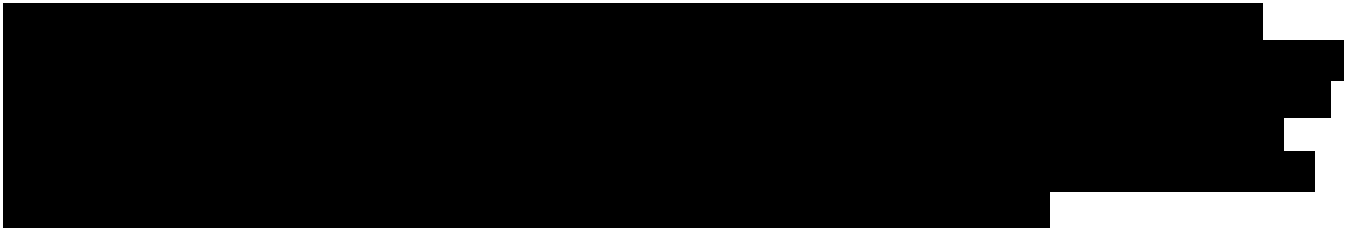
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### Q24. Project sensitivities

Please indicate whether there are sensitivities associated with this project that need to be considered if details are published (detailed species location data that would increase threats, political sensitivities, prosecutions for illegal activities, security of staff etc.).

Yes

Please provide details.



### Q25. Workplan

Provide a project workplan that shows the key milestones in project activities.

[Workplan\\_BO Evidence](#)

27/10/2024

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## Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### Q26. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

IWT Challenge Fund projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact.




Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be led by the TRAFFIC Project Manager, Alan Hesse, with additional support from Phillippa Dyson, TRAFFIC's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning manager. From the outset, a detailed M&E

plan will be developed and agreed upon, outlining timelines, milestones, roles, and responsibilities using a RACI chart to ensure clear accountability for both TRAFFIC and BAI personnel. The Project Manager will collaborate with each researcher and relevant BAI staff to establish clear methodologies for each research component, ensuring alignment with project indicators and outputs.

Regular monthly project calls and quarterly monitoring meetings, involving TRAFFIC and BAI personnel as well as the relevant researchers, will be scheduled to track progress against the work plan. To facilitate constant communication with in-country participants, the Project Manager will establish reliable channels, such as a dedicated WhatsApp group. This remote monitoring will be supplemented by the Project Manager's two in-country visits, providing opportunities for in-person meetings and assessments.

A concise template for monthly progress reports will be designed and implemented for BAI members and the three research consultants, ensuring regular updates. This internal reporting system will feed into the Project Manager's tracking of project activities using a traffic light system (on track, pending, delayed, or completed).

Challenges or delays will be addressed adaptively through these regular meetings, with actions developed to keep activities on course where needed. Halfway through the project a mid-term reflection session will be held to review the progress of the project in more depth, its strengths and weaknesses, results, insights and findings so far (including any unintended positive or negative impacts), the identified project risks and the logic of the intended pathway to change, as well as identify any external issues or opportunities and determine if any strategic adaptations are needed to increase the success of the project. Finally, an end-of-project M&E Report will assess results against indicators and reflect on lessons learned, informing future improvements.

<b>Total project budget for M&amp;E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)</b>	
<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E (%)</b>	
<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	

## Section 10 - Indicators of success & Standard Indicators

### Q27a. Indicators of success

**IWT Challenge Fund projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.**

	SMART Indicator	Means of Verification
<b>Outcome</b> Enhanced understanding of IWT in Bolivia, identifying feasible entry points in market dynamics, consumer behaviour, and community livelihoods to design an effective demand reduction campaign for Titicaca Water Frog protection.	0.1. By the end of August 2025, insight, evidence and analysis on the market offer, species impacted and scale of illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia, informs action by the Bolivian CITES MA and proceedings at the 20th CITES Conference of the Parties (CITES CoP20).	0.1.a. Final market survey report and raw data documenting findings on the market offers, species impacted, and scale of illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia.
	0.2. By the end of November	0.1.b. Peer-reviewed article or policy brief written by TRAFFIC disseminating the research findings, e.g. to the Bolivian CITES Management Authority, Ministry

2025, insight and analysis of the consumer behaviours driving illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia informs the strategy for a behaviour change initiative to reduce offtake of the Titicaca Water Frog in this country.

0.3. By the end of April 2026, recommendations on the most feasible and attractive sustainable livelihood alternatives for 3 communities around Lake Titicaca are submitted to the Bolivian Amphibian Initiative (BAI).

for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (DGBAP).

0.1.c. Statements, proposals, or recommendations submitted by TRAFFIC to the Bolivian CITES Management Authority referencing the research outputs.

0.1.d. Inf and other research documents at CITES COP 20 showcasing the results, suggesting solutions to IWT in Bolivia.

0.2.a. Research report compiled by the consumer research consultant and raw data detailing insights, evidence, and analysis on consumer behaviours driving illegal wildlife trade in Bolivia.

0.2.b. Copy of the final consumer research report describing a strategy for a follow-on behaviour change campaign to reduce demand for the Titicaca Water Frog in Bolivia.

0.2.c. Attendance lists, presentations, or summaries from workshops or meetings where the study findings were presented by the consumer research consultant to key stakeholders.

0.3.a. Feasibility report, compiled by the livelihoods research consultant under supervision of the BAI, along with raw data presenting insights, evidence, and analysis on sustainable livelihood alternatives for communities around Lake Titicaca.

0.3.b. Documentation of report dissemination by the BAI (e.g. emails, workshop proceedings, distribution lists) to relevant stakeholders.

## Output 1

Unprecedented evidence and insights to identify Bolivia's IWT routes, species and market dynamics, including relative volumes, pricing and market players.

1.1. By the end of August 2025, the most threatened species in addition to the Titicaca Water Frog that are most traded in Bolivia are identified through online market surveys and seizure records.

1.2. By the end of July 2025, data is collected from up to six physical indicator markets documenting the presence, use types, and market dynamics of the Titicaca Water Frog and other threatened species.

1.3. By the end of September 2025, one trade assessment report is finalised documenting the internal routes, species, market dynamics and market players, which enable the illegal trade of the Titicaca Water Frog and other threatened wildlife in Bolivia.

1.1.a. Raw data (June & August 2025) collected by the market study researcher documenting the online offer of illegally traded wildlife in Bolivia, e.g. screenshots, volume of offer for each species, commodity type (raw, worked, powdered, etc) product attributes 'marketed', price, exposure and CTR of individual wildlife offer ads, etc.

1.1.b. Seizure analysis conducted (May 2025) by the market study researcher using data from TRAFFIC and other databases and wherever possible from DGBAP (Bolivia Ministry for Biodiversity and Protected Areas), and/or POFOMA – Bolivian Environmental Police - documenting locations and other details of illegal wildlife seizures in Bolivia over the past 5 years.

1.2. Raw data (June to July 2025) from survey forms and observation logs collected by The market study researcher from up to six physical indicator markets, including records of species presence, commodity type (raw, worked, powdered, etc) product attributes 'marketed', price and market dynamics (e.g. number of stalls selling each species, factors influencing vendor sourcing, market throughput, insight on supply chains and trade volume per stall and per species).

1.3.a. Final report compiled by TRAFFIC containing evidence on market dynamics, trade routes, and key insights (August 2025).

1.3.b. Submission records by TRAFFIC (and confirmation of reception, e.g. submission receipts, emails, or letters of acknowledgment) to the Bolivian CITES MA (September 2025).

1.3.c. Inclusion of the report or information thereof by the Bolivian CITES MA as an Information Document (Inf.Doc) in the official CITES CoP20 documentation or meeting agenda (November 2025).

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**Output 2**

Enhanced understanding of illegal wildlife consumer profiles and awareness of conservation issues, and the underlying patterns, drivers and deterrents around the consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog.

2.1. By November 2025, baseline data on the psycho-demographic and socio-economic characteristics (sufficient to inform segmentation) of potential target audiences for behaviour change initiatives regarding use of the Titicaca Water Frog and other threatened species.

2. Final report compiled by the consumer research consultant documenting wildlife product consumption in Bolivia as informed by the means of verification below (2.1. – 2.4.), disaggregated by gender and ethnicity, highlighting the identified trends.

CONSUMPTION PATTERNS:

2.2. By November 2025, baseline data on past and predicted future consumption patterns of the Titicaca Water Frog, disaggregated by gender, socio-demographics and ethnicity, identifying distinct usage/occasion categories by consumer type.

2.1. Raw survey data, data collection forms (collected from September to November 2025), and analysis outputs compiled by the consumer research consultant showing sociodemographic characteristics and level of awareness regarding the illegality of consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog and other threatened species.

CONSUMER INFLUENCES / INFLUENCERS

2.3. By November 2025, baseline data on the 3 top sources of influence for the consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog, disaggregated by gender, psycho-demographic and socio-economic attributes, and ethnicity, identifying distinct usage/occasion categories by consumer type.

2.2. Raw survey data, data collection forms (collected from September to November 2025), and analysis outputs compiled by the consumer research consultant showing Titicaca Water Frog consumption patterns across different use types (e.g. traditional medicine, protein, pet ownership).

DRIVERS AND DETERRENTS

2.4. By November 2025, baseline data on the main drivers and deterrents influencing the consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog, disaggregated by gender,

socio-demographics and ethnicity, identifying distinct usage/occasion categories by consumer type.

2.3. Raw data from qualitative research conducted by the consumer research consultant from September to November 2025 (e.g. focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, social listening) that provide insights into the sources of influence on Titicaca Water Frog consumption behaviours.

2.4. Raw data from qualitative research conducted by the consumer research consultant from September to November 2025 (e.g. focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, social listening) that provide insights into the key drivers and deterrents of consumption behaviours.

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**Output 3**

Feasibility assessment completed, documenting viable sustainable livelihood alternatives for Bolivian communities around Lake Titicaca.

3.1. By July 2025, gender-disaggregated data from qualitative research/workshops in three target communities around Lake Titicaca in Bolivia identifies the most feasible and attractive sustainable livelihood alternatives.

3.2. By the end of September 2025, economic analysis evaluates the current feasibility (e.g. in terms of income potential, investment requirements and enabling conditions) for the top livelihood preferences identified under 3.1.

3.1. Data from focus group discussion transcripts gathered by the livelihoods research consultant in the three target communities during January 2026

3.2. Documentation of data sources used in the economic analysis conducted (February

3.3. By the start of March 2026, a draft feasibility report for the preferred sustainable livelihood alternatives in 3 target communities around Lake Titicaca is shared using culturally appropriate methods to engage the target communities in an iterative co-design process.

3.4. By April 2026, a community-endorsed feasibility assessment report on sustainable livelihoods in three target communities around Lake Titicaca is finalized, incorporating gender-disaggregated input from co-design processes used to inform future poverty reduction initiatives.

2026) by the livelihoods research consultant, including cost-benefit analyses, investment models, and feasibility assessments specific to each livelihood alternative.

3.3.a. The initial report compiled by the livelihoods research consultant outlining sustainable livelihood options, including sections for potential, constraints, and community recommendations.

3.3.b. Evidence of dissemination activities conducted by the livelihoods research consultant (March 2026) such as community meetings, culturally tailored presentations, visual aids, or gender-disaggregated workshops conducted to share the draft report.

3.3.c. Written reports/workshop proceedings generated from gender-sensitive co-design workshops collected by the livelihoods research consultant (March 2026).

3.4. Final feasibility assessment compiled by the livelihoods research consultant incorporating feedback from the gender-disaggregated co-design process (April 2026), with documented evidence of community input and endorsement.

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4.1. Final report synthesizing the key findings of outputs 1, 2 and 3.

#### **Output 4**

Results from Outputs 1, 2 and 3 are compiled into a final report, specific versions of which are disseminated among key stakeholders

4.1. By the end of May 2026, a final report synthesizing the key findings from outputs 1, 2 and 3 is completed.

4.2. By the end of June 2026 tailored sub-versions of the main report are submitted to key stakeholders in Bolivia

4.2. Records of meetings, email correspondence and attachments.

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#### **Activities**

**Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.**

0.1. Project Manager travels to Bolivia for introductory meetings with key stakeholders (government agencies, CITES MA, key municipalities and institutions) to present TRAFFIC and the project objectives.

Output 1: Unprecedented evidence and insights to identify Bolivia's IWT routes, species and market dynamics, including relative volumes, pricing and market players.

1.0. The market study researcher receives training from TRAFFIC on safeguarding and research protocols.

TRAFFIC collects and analyses data from online monitoring of social media (at least 3 channels) and national e-commerce platforms (at least 1) offering wildlife or wildlife products in Bolivia

TRAFFIC analyses seizure records and other official data as available from relevant authorities documenting IWT in Bolivia over the past 5 years.

The market study researcher conducts market surveys collecting observational data on all illegally traded wildlife in up to 6 physical indicator markets in Bolivia, and prepares a research report documenting key findings and including raw data.

TRAFFIC synthesizes and shares the findings of 1.1 - 1.3 into a market research report designed specifically to inform the CITES Management Authority in time for CITES COP20 (late 2025).

Output 2: Enhanced understanding of illegal wildlife consumer profiles and awareness of conservation issues, and the underlying patterns, drivers and deterrents around the consumption of the Titicaca Water Frog.

2.1. The consumer study researcher conducts online social listening on at least 3 social media channels documenting Titicaca Water Frog consumer behaviour.

2.2. The consumer study researcher conducts in-person focus groups segregated by gender and indigenous status among observed buyers of wildlife products in at least 3 indicator urban markets in Bolivia (4 focus groups per market).

2.3. The consumer study researcher conducts one quantitative street survey (using a nominative approach well suited to reporting illegal behaviour) in at least 3 indicator urban markets in Bolivia (1 survey per market).

2.4. The consumer study researcher and liaison officer from BAI attend the monthly meetings held in the 3 target communities to explain the project objectives and request the community's collaboration and participation for Activities 2.4 and those under Output 3, respectively (part of the FPIC process).

2.5. The consumer study researcher conducts 2 focus group discussions in each of three rural Lake Titicaca communities, disaggregating between men and women participants (in total 6 focus groups).

2.6. The consumer study researcher engages key influencers such as community leaders, traditional healers, market sellers, restaurant owners and relevant authorities through in-depth interviews and focus groups to gather insights on Titicaca Water Frog consumption patterns, constraints and enabling factors.

2.7. The consumer study researcher conducts data analysis and synthesis of findings disaggregating between use types and socio-demographic profiles with particular emphasis on gender and ethnicity.

Output 3: Feasibility assessment completed, documenting viable sustainable livelihood alternatives for Bolivian communities around Lake Titicaca

3.1. The livelihoods researcher conducts gender-disaggregated rural community workshops/meetings/focus groups with 3 target communities around Lake Titicaca in Bolivia, referencing also local pilot initiatives, to identify alternative livelihood preferences.

3.2. The livelihoods researcher performs an economic analysis of the top 2 to 3 livelihood preferences identified in the initial research stage.

3.3. The livelihoods researcher conducts one co-design workshop for each gender in each of the 3 target communities (total of 6 workshops) to incorporate community input on the draft feasibility livelihood feasibility assessment.

3.4. The livelihoods researcher compiles co-designed inputs into the final report for the livelihoods feasibility assessment.

Output 4: Results from Outputs 1, 2 and 3 are compiled into a final report, specific versions of which are disseminated among key stakeholders.

4.1. TRAFFIC compiles the key findings from the Output 1, 2 and 3 reports into a final report and tailored sub-

reports designed for specific stakeholders.

4.2. TRAFFIC presents tailored sub-reports issuing from Activity 4.1. with different stakeholders, setting the stage for project continuation subject to further funding for implementation.

### Important Assumptions

**Please describe up to 6 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver you Outputs and Outcome.**

Political stability under the new Bolivian government (elections on 17th August 2025) will support data collection, stakeholder engagement, and project implementation.

Government agencies, law enforcement, and online platforms will share wildlife trade data and assist with collection.

No major disruptions (e.g., policy changes or social blockades) will impact data collection.

Research subjects will provide honest, accurate information on illegal wildlife consumption.

Cultural sensitivities will not impede data collection, and trust will be built with diverse groups.

Local communities and new leaders, if applicable, will support project activities.

Gender dynamics won't limit women's participation.

### Q27b. Standard Indicators

Standard Indicator Ref & Wording	Project Output or Outcome this links to	Target number by project end	Provide disaggregated targets here
<b>e.g. IWTCF-A01: Number of people reporting they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training</b>	<b>e.g. Output indicator 3.4 / Output 3</b>	<b>e.g. 60</b>	<b>e.g. Kenya, 30 non-indigenous women; 30 non-indigenous men</b>
IWTCF-D03: Number of trainers trained under the project reporting to have delivered further training	Output 1.3	3	Bolivia National: CITES Management Authority National: DGBAP (Ministry for Biodiversity and Protected Areas) Local: Bolivian Amphibian Initiative
IWTCF-D12: Number of new or improved approaches and tools developed for addressing IWT	Outputs 1.1/ 1.2	2	Bolivia, New

IWTCF-D12: Number of new or improved approaches and tools developed for addressing IWT	Outputs 2.1/2.2/2.3/2.4	4	Bolivia New and Enhanced
IWTCF-D12: Number of new or improved approaches and tools developed for addressing IWT	Outputs 3.1/3.2	3	Bolivia Enhanced
IWTCF-D17:No of people with increased participation in local communities or local management orgs	Outputs 2.2/2.3/2.5 /3.1	60	Bolivia Gender: 30 male (indigenous) and 30 female (indigenous) Indigenous: 60 Citizen engagement
IWTCF-D17:No of people with increased participation in local communities or local management orgs	Output 3.3	60	Bolivia Gender: 30 women and 30 men Indigenous: 60 Citizen engagement and Governance
IWTCF-D01: No of people from eligible countries who have received structured and relevant training	Output 1, Output 2, Output 3	4	Bolivia Gender: 2 male, 2 female Indigenous status: tbc
IWTCF-B13: Number of intelligence reports fed into management decisions on species protection	Outcome 0.1, Output 1.3, Output 4.2	1	Bolivia
IWTCF-B11: Number of wildlife crime cases handed to a relevant agency	Output 1.1	10	Bolivia. Case status: Handed over
IWTCF-C05:No of govt institutions with enhanced awareness & understanding of biodiversity & poverty	Output 4.2	3	Bolivia Type: National, Environmental, Other.
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>


## Section 11 - Budget and Funding


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### Q28. Budget


Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application, and ensure the Summary page is fully completed. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

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 [BO Frog Budget Defra Format](#)

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### Q29. Alignment with other funding and activities

This question aims to help us understand how familiar you are with other work in the geographic/thematic area, and how this proposed project will build on or align with this to avoid any risks of duplicating or conflicting activities.

**Q29a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)? Please give details.**

This project builds on BAI's 15 years of work in the Lake Titicaca region while addressing key knowledge gaps in Bolivia's illegal wildlife trade. Outputs 1 and 2 will generate new data on the trade of threatened wildlife, especially the Titicaca Water Frog. Although student theses document the use and trade of the frog, existing data is insufficient for large-scale interventions. This project will create an unprecedented, systematic evidence base to guide future conservation efforts.

Output 3 will assess sustainable livelihood alternatives for communities, including ecotourism initiatives. BAI's work with Isla de la Luna on frog sanctuaries and snorkelling tours demonstrates a balance between conservation and local income generation, with potential for expansion. BAI's relationships with local organizations, such as ALT and IPD-PACU, will support Output 3.

Findings from Outputs 1 and 2 will inform interventions to reduce illegal frog demand while promoting sustainable livelihoods for indigenous communities. This approach aligns conservation with poverty reduction and strengthens law enforcement through evidence-based tools, including BAI's new protocol for managing Titicaca Water Frog seizures. BAI's collaborations with organizations like WCS, Vesty Pakos Zoo, and Bolivia's Ministerio de Medio Ambiente will further support these efforts.

**Q29b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area to the proposed project?**

Yes

**Please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.**

There is no known current or planned work on the Titicaca Water Frog in Bolivia beyond the Bolivian Amphibian Initiative's (BAI) existing efforts, which include frog population monitoring, community-based tourism, and collaboration with Cochabamba's d'Orbigny Museum for ex-situ conservation [17]. BAI also works with the Vesty Pakos animal refuge to provide a destination for confiscated frogs. In Peru, no planned efforts for this species exist, confirmed by recent discussions with authorities (SERFOR, CITES MA) and WCS Peru.

In Bolivia, Armonia's current IWTCF proposal focuses on macaw trafficking and stakeholder empowerment. Our project through Output 1 will complement Armonia's by documenting trade and consumption of threatened species, including macaws, addressing a critical knowledge gap identified in Bolivia's 2019-2030 Biodiversity Action Plan.

Fundacion Natura Bolivia's IWTCF-funded project to protect the Red-fronted Macaw focuses on community patrols and economic incentives, while Armonia's recently concluded macaw project did not address knowledge gaps on illegal wildlife trade.

## Q30. Balance of budget spend

**Defra are keen to see as much IWT Challenge Fund funding as possible directly benefiting communities and economies. While it is appreciated that this is not always possible every effort should be made for funds to remain in-country.**

Approximately 75% of the budget is allocated to costs within Bolivia and the LAC region, with just 25% covering TRAFFIC staff and operating costs in the UK. Apart from direct in-country expenses such as consultants, funds for BAI and internal travel, this division reflects the fact that the Project Manager, whose time accounts for 40% of the budget, is based in the LAC region. The £10,000 allocated to BAI covers their personnel time.

Funds spent outside the region are minimized and essential for TRAFFIC's project support functions, safeguarding, and M&E support. These are crucial for ensuring TRAFFIC's role as the leading organization, guaranteeing efficiency and accountability.

In-country benefits include not only the project's direct outcomes but also enhanced capacity building for BAI staff, who will accompany the three research components. The project will provide valuable experience and career opportunities for the three Bolivian researchers involved and produce updated, unprecedented data to support the efforts of Bolivian CITES and conservation authorities.

## Q31. Value for Money

**Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount to be spent?**

In terms of economy, TRAFFIC's specialized staff will provide training to the market study researcher, allowing for a lower daily rate while maintaining quality. Researcher compensation is slightly above the norm in Bolivia to attract highly qualified candidates. TRAFFIC staff costs are minimized, with the Project Manager based in Ecuador, reducing international travel expenses. Competitive procurement will ensure the best candidates are selected, with BAI assisting in the selection process.

For efficiency, research activities are clustered in geographic areas and time periods to reduce travel costs. The market study will follow a multi-stop itinerary to minimize expenses. Monthly budget reviews with BAI will ensure efficiency throughout, and an example of cost-saving is one researcher attending initial community meetings on behalf of the team, saving time and resources.

The project's effectiveness lies in creating an evidence base that will inform future demand reduction and poverty alleviation interventions in Bolivia. Beneficiaries include local partners, indigenous communities, and conservation authorities. The bi-national nature of the Titicaca Water Frog offers potential for scaling across Bolivia and Peru.

Additionality comes from the project's alignment with DEFRA's IWTCF framework. TRAFFIC's Project Manager is based in the region, ensuring leadership while opening opportunities in Latin America at minimal cost.

Finally, equity is ensured through gender- and ethnicity-disaggregated research, giving voice to men, women, and indigenous communities.

### **Q32. Capital items**

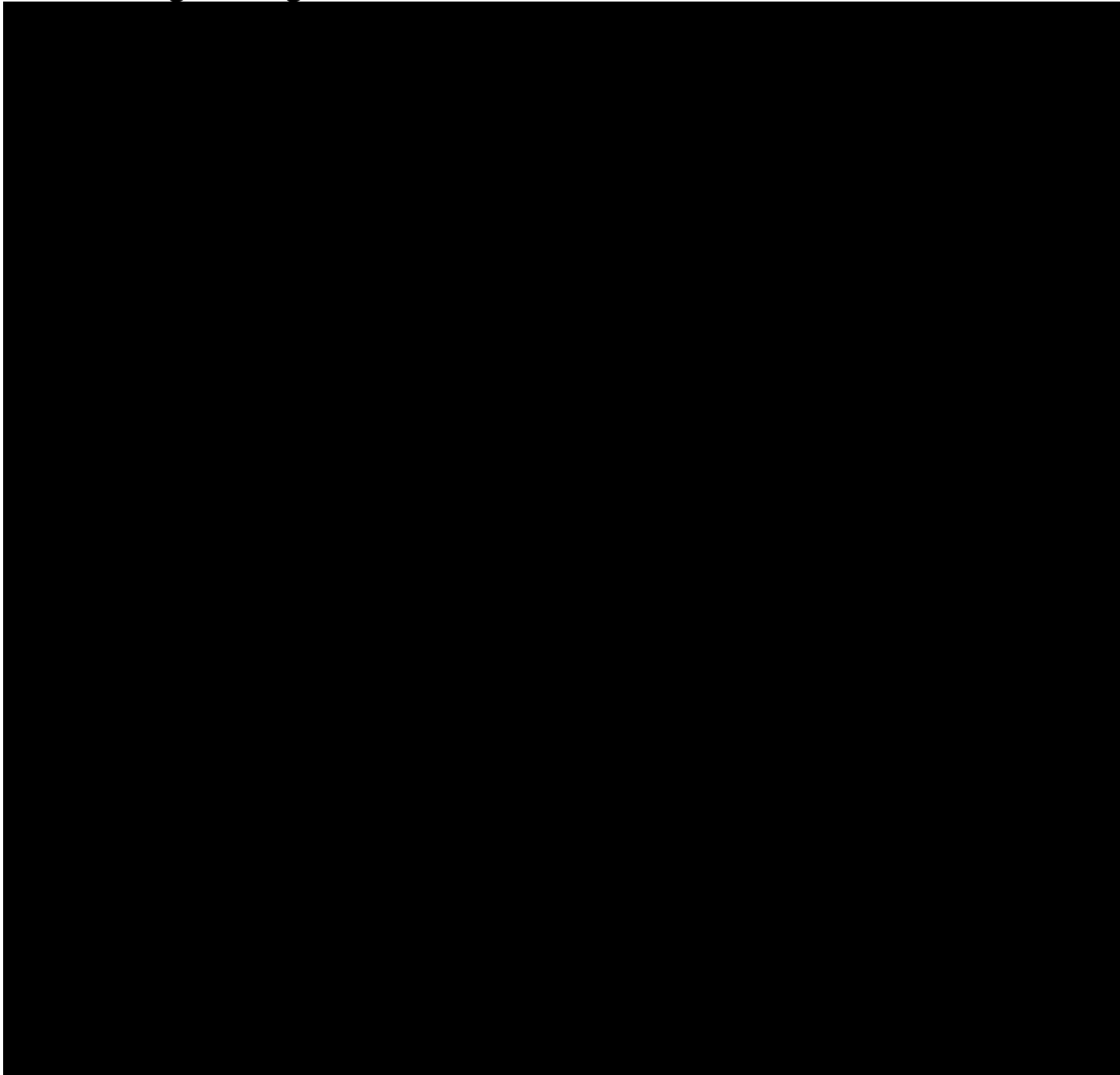
**If you plan to purchase capital items with IWT Challenge Fund funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.**

Not applicable.

## **Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics**

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### **Q33. Safeguarding**



### Q34. Ethics

**Outline your approach to meeting the key principles of good ethical practice, as outlined in the guidance**

Our project adheres to UKRI ESRC Research Ethics Guidance and principles of good ethical practice by ensuring all research is culturally appropriate and undergoes ethical review. For Output 3, we will follow the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process. Pre-project engagement has already begun through BAI, which has established trust with the target community to ensure their full agreement with the proposed activities.

We will mitigate risks to both researchers and respondents by establishing safeguards, especially when discussing sensitive topics like illegal wildlife trade. Participation will be voluntary and informed; respondents will be fully aware of how their data will be used, ensuring they participate without coercion. Integrity and transparency will be maintained by framing questions neutrally, preventing bias or leading respondents toward specific answers. For example, questions regarding illegal trade will not assume participation. Independence of research will be upheld, with potential conflicts of interest disclosed. For instance, research involving sensitive community relations will not be conducted by those directly connected to these communities, ensuring objectivity.

This ethical framework ensures the research is reliable and robust, and findings can be responsibly shared with relevant authorities.

## Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

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### Q35. British embassy or high commission engagement


**It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies. Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British embassy or high commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.**

Yes

Please attach evidence of request or advice if received.

 [LOS\\_UK Embassy\\_BO Evidence](#)

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## Section 14 - Project Staff

### Q36. Project staff

**Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.**

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Alan Hesse	<b>Project Leader</b>	40	Checked
Gayle Burgess	Technical Supervision and safeguarding focal point	5	Checked
Paola Mosig Reidl	Will provide training on TRAFFIC protocols and processes for Activity 1.3. to the designated local researcher, and supervise / assist on Activities 1.1 and 1.2.	6	Checked
Philippa Dyson	Monitoring and Evaluation	2	Checked





**Do you require more fields?**

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Juan Gabriel Callapa Escalera (BAI)	Physical research activities and support logistics and liaison with local communities in the Titicaca area	10	Checked
Jaime Salamanca Arrevalo (BAI)	Will assist the physical research activities and support logistics and liaison with local communities in the Titicaca area	10	Checked
Arturo Munoz (BAI)	Local Partner overall coordination and supervision, will also facilitate outreach with government stakeholders.	7	Checked

Patricia Mendoza (BAI)	Will manage administration of received funds and the contract of the livelihoods researcher.	9	Checked
Cristina Canedo (BAI)	Will provide support for research activities in local communities conducted with women	10	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	Unchecked

**Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.**

-  [BO Frogs CVs](#)
-  28/10/2024
-  13:56:56
-  pdf 860.51 KB

**Have you attached all project staff CVs?**

Yes

## Section 15 - Project Partners

### Q37. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Organisation), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project, ideally evidencing meaningful and early engagement in the co-design of your project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.

Lead Organisation name: TRAFFIC International

Website address: www.traffic.org

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Role: TRAFFIC will lead project management, coordination of partners, administration, monitoring and evaluation, risk management as well as providing technical expertise.

Why is this organisation the Lead Organisation, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

Capacity: TRAFFIC, with around 200 staff, is a leading NGO working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. TRAFFIC's capability for this project includes extensive experience managing and overseeing social and market research and behaviourally informed demand reduction initiatives at global level. TRAFFIC also provides training and technical guidance to CITES Parties on demand reduction strategies.

The TRAFFIC project manager has 20 years experience living and working as a conservation project manager in Bolivia. He is still based in the LAC region and is fluent in Spanish.

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**International/ In-country Partner**

International

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**Allocated budget (proportion or value):**



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**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**

Yes

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

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### Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

**1. Partner Name:** Bolivian Amphibian Initiative (BAI)

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**Website address:** <https://bolivianamphibian.org/>

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BAI brings significant value to the project through its long-standing relationships with local communities, academic institutions, and Bolivia's conservation networks and authorities. As leading experts on the Titicaca Water Frog, BAI's knowledge and experience are critical to the project's success. Their deep-rooted presence around Lake Titicaca, particularly with the Isla de la Luna community, ensures trust and facilitates the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process from the outset.

**What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

BAI's role is essential for outreach, administrative, and logistical support, liaising with stakeholders including law enforcement and indigenous communities involved in the unregulated trade of the frog. BAI staff members have over three years of experience working with Lake Titicaca's indigenous communities, building trust-based relationships that will enhance project effectiveness. Another staff member will coordinate from BAI's headquarters in Cochabamba.

Beyond their grassroots influence, BAI is well-positioned to secure government and institutional backing, thanks to strong connections with Bolivia's conservation networks. BAI's co-founder, a leading amphibian expert linked to the IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group, will contribute remotely from Belgium. These capacities make BAI an indispensable partner in aligning the project with national priorities while providing local expertise.

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**Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation.**

BAI has been a key partner since the project's inception, following TRAFFIC's decision to focus on the Titicaca Water Frog in Bolivia. Early consultations ensured alignment with BAI's existing work and ongoing projects around Lake Titicaca. They provided valuable input on project activities, the work plan, and budget, and expressed strong interest in collaborating to address illegal wildlife trade and poverty reduction.

During implementation, BAI will manage stakeholder relations, lead activities for Output 3, and facilitate access to indigenous communities using the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process. They will also help identify researchers, supervise research methodology, and engage government stakeholders. BAI will support technical, logistical, and administrative tasks, while ensuring outreach and the dissemination of outputs.

Looking ahead, BAI will play a larger role in demand reduction efforts for the Titicaca frog and poverty reduction initiatives in Lake Titicaca, while building internal capacity by shadowing project elements.

---

**International/ In-country Partner**

In-country

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):**



---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**

No

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

**2. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

---

Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation. *No Response*

---

**International/ In-country Partner** *No Response*

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):** *No Response*

---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**  
 Yes  
 No

---

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  
 Yes  
 No

---

**3. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

---

Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation. *No Response*

---

**International/ In-country Partner** *No Response*

---

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):** *No Response*

---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**  Yes  
 No

---

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes  
 No

---

---

**4. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

---

Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation. *No Response*

---

**International/ In-country Partner** *No Response*

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):** *No Response*

---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**  Yes  
 No

---

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes  
 No

---

---

**5. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

---

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

*No Response*

---

Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation.

*No Response*

---

**International/ In-country Partner**

*No Response*

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):**

*No Response*

---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**

Yes

No

---

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

No

---

**6. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

*No Response*

---

Explain how you have involved this partner within the development of the project and their expected role during its implementation.

*No Response*

---

**International/ In-country Partner**

*No Response*

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):**

*No Response*

---

---

**Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):**  Yes  No

---


Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes  No


---


**If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.**


*No Response*

**Please provide a combined PDF of all letters of support in the order they are presented in the table.**

 [Bolivia Frog combined LOS](#)

 27/10/2024

 17:31:32

 pdf 524.63 KB

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## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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### Q38. Organisation Capability and Capacity

**Has your organisation been awarded Biodiversity Challenge Funds (Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund) funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?**

Yes

**If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DAREX012	Anastasiya Timoshyna	Scaling conservation of Himalayan plants and fungi through sustainable trade
DARINV013	Cara Flowers	Trialling Wild Harvest Improvement Projects for sustainable wild plant trade
IWTEV016	David Newton	Enhancing knowledge to tackle illegal trade of Madagascar's medicinal plants
IWTEV009	Simone Louw	Gathering evidence to address illegal trade in African fish maw
IWT108	Xu Ling	Demand reduction and behaviour change along China's parrot supply chains
28-026	Anastasiya Timoshyna	Himalayan plants for people: sustainable trade for biodiversity and development

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

Yes

## Section 17 - Certification

---

### Certification

**On behalf of the**

Trustees

**of**

TRAFFIC International

**I apply for a grant of**

£99,677.62

**I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.**

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for key project personnel, a cover letter, letters of support, a budget, Safeguarding and associated policies and project workplan.
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (covering three years), or other evidence of financial capacity as set out in the Finance Guidance, are also enclosed.

Checked


---

**Name** RICHARD SCOBEY

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**Position in the organisation** Executive Director

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**Signature (please upload e-signature)**  [BO Frog Certification](#)  
 28/10/2024  
 14:01:39  
 pdf 61.25 KB





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**Date** 28 October 2024





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**Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.**

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 [TRAFFIC FY23 Annual Accounts and report](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:33:46  
 pdf 3.39 MB

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

 [TRAFFIC FY22 Annual Accounts and report](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:33:34  
 pdf 934.16 KB

**Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF**





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 [Code of Conduct October 2024](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:34:09  
 pdf 673.36 KB





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 [Sexual Harassment Policy - Aug 2024](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:34:09  
 pdf 449.33 KB

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 [Whistleblowing Policy](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:34:09  
 pdf 568.78 KB

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 [Safeguarding Policy](#)  
 27/10/2024  
 17:34:08  
 pdf 528.74 KB

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## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

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### Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "IWT Challenge Fund Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Standard Indicator Guidance", "Risk Guidance" and "Financial Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided <u>actual start and end dates</u> for the project.	Checked
I have provided my <u>budget based on UK government financial years</u> i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our <u>budget is complete</u> , correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been <u>signed by a suitably authorised individual</u> (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a <u>cover letter</u> from the lead organisation</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>my <u>budget</u> (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a signed <u>copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts</u> (covering <u>three years</u>) for the Lead Partner, or other evidence of financial capacity as set out in the Financial Guidance, or provided an explanation if not.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>my completed <u>workplan</u> as a PDF using the template provided.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a copy of the <u>Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct</u> (Question 33).</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff</u> identified at Question 35, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a <u>letter of support</u> from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 37, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.</li></ul>	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country(ies) and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked

<b>My additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.</b>	Checked
<b>(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked the IWT Challenge Fund website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the IWT Challenge Fund website.</b>	Checked

**We would like to keep in touch!**

**Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the IWT Challenge Fund and our sister grant scheme, the Darwin Initiative. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.**

Checked

**Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the IWT Challenges Fund including project details (usually title, lead organisation, project leader, location, and total grant value).