

## Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Extra Annual Report IWT Challenge Fund (IWTCF) Project Information

Project reference	IWTTEX001
Project title	Dismantling pangolin trade in Vietnam
Country/ies	Vietnam
Lead Partner	Save Vietnam's Wildlife
Project partner(s)	Save Vietnam's Wildlife, managers of Cat Tien NP, U Minh Thuong NP, and U Minh Ha NP
IWTCF grant value	£999,250.00
Start/end dates of project	01/07/2022 - 30/06/2025
Reporting period	01/4/2023 - 31/3/2024
Project Leader name	Thai Van Nguyen
Project website/blog/social media	svw.vn
Report author(s) and date	Nguyen Van Thai

### 1. Project summary

The project is a strategic endeavour to combat the illegal wildlife trade through the enhancement of law enforcement, the strengthening of community engagement, and the implementation of demand reduction strategies. The commitment is to build strong collaborations among governmental bodies, sectors, and local communities at three pivotal pangolin sites in Vietnam. The aim is to enhance law enforcement, improve community livelihoods, and curb the demand for illegally traded wildlife products. This comprehensive approach is designed to safeguard critical populations of pangolins and their associated habitats, and as an umbrella species, these efforts will help to preserve other critically threatened species within them, such as Asian elephants, Gibbons, Douc and Silvered Langurs, and Hairy-nosed otters.

In addressing the illegal wildlife trade, the project will strengthen law enforcement through the integration of advanced technology and the establishment of collaborative partnerships. The deployment of the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) is planned to conduct effective anti-poaching patrols. Additionally, modern technology will be leveraged to enhance data collection, storage, and analysis capabilities, which will support an adaptive management framework.

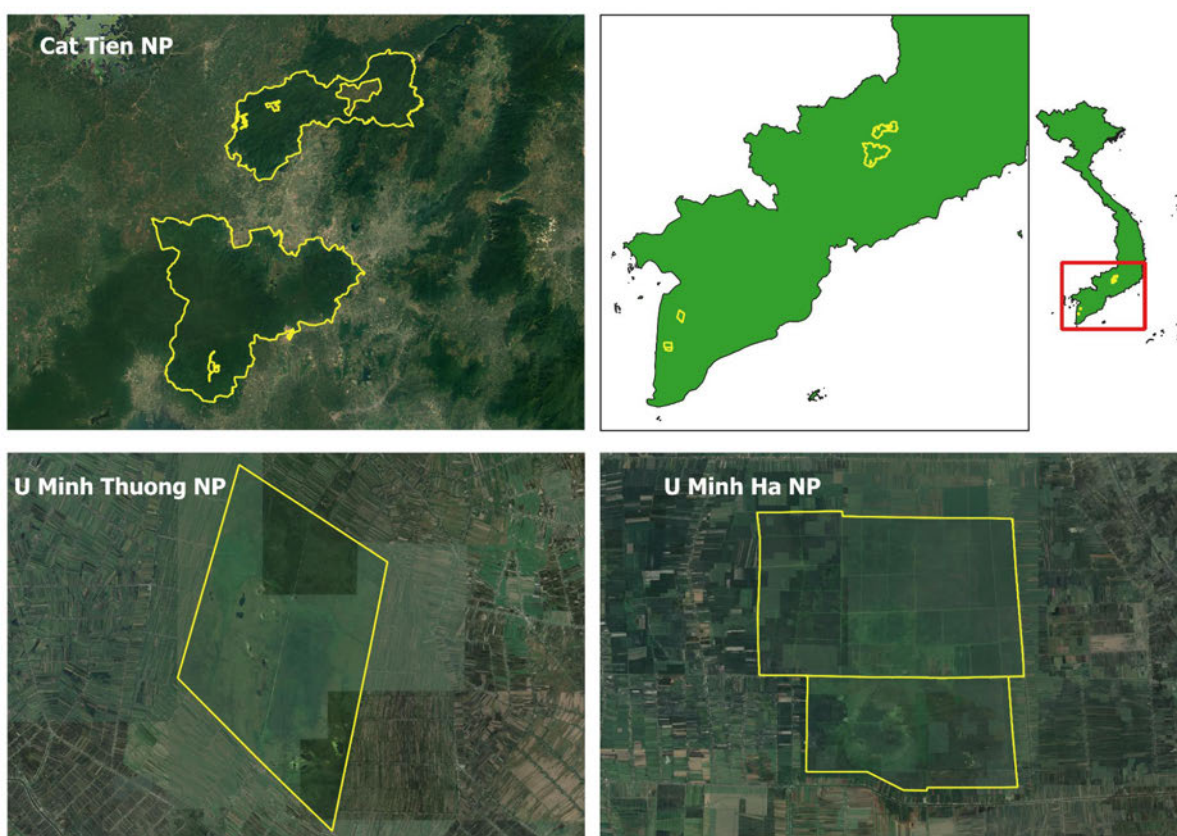
The project seeks to bridge the evidence gap in current approaches by standardising data collection and analysis practices. Law enforcement in key sites will be equipped with the necessary

technology and tools, governance and policy implementation will be streamlined to hasten the imposition of penalties for wildlife crimes, and community engagement projects that support the Payment for Forest and Environmental Services (PFES) programs will be improved.

The impact on threatened species, particularly the Critically Endangered Sunda Pangolin, is of paramount importance. The goal is to protect these species from the severe consequences of the illegal wildlife trade by expanding successful conservation models to additional key strongholds, thus ensuring their continued existence across various ecoregions in Vietnam.

Local communities affected by the illegal wildlife trade are expected to benefit significantly from the project. Their livelihoods will be enhanced and awareness about wildlife-related issues, such as the extinction crisis, ecosystem services, environmental degradation, and the health risks associated with consuming wildlife, will be raised. By providing alternative job opportunities and education on wildlife conservation, the project aims to address poverty and wildlife trade issues within these communities.

The project has been implemented in key pangolin strongholds, including Cat Tien (CTNP), U Minh Thuong (UMT), and U Minh Ha (UMH) National Parks, which also serve as habitats for other rare and threatened species. Our strategic approach is designed to fill the evidence gap in existing interventions, with a focus on the anticipated impact on species and communities, and a comprehensive project management plan. The dedication is to adapt strategies to the dynamic challenges of the illegal wildlife trade and ensure the success of the conservation efforts.



## 2. Project stakeholders/partners

Over the past year, the project has evolved to include the support and engagement of many new and existing formal partners and key stakeholders. These partners all share in the commitment to address the challenges posed by the illegal wildlife trade and played an important role in project planning, monitoring, evaluation, and decision-making processes to help ensure that a collaborative approach was established to meet the goals of the project and utilise the strengths of each entity to combat the illegal wildlife trade.

The project has achieved notable milestones, including the establishment of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with all key partners, which has solidified the framework for cooperation. These formal agreements with management boards of Cat Tien, U Minh Thuong, and U Minh Ha National Parks, along with forest rangers, local police, and provincial Forest Protection Departments (FPD), who have been key partners in advancing the project's objectives.

Challenges encountered include navigating the complexities of inter-agency coordination and aligning the diverse participation of stakeholders. Local institutions, communities, and technical specialists, although not formally part of the project, have been involved through consultative and capacity-building meetings. The Provincial People's Committees of Dong Nai, Binh Phuoc, Lam Dong, Kien Giang, and Ca Mau, along with district and commune-level committees within the buffer zones of the three National Parks, have also been engaged to support implementation of new training programs, expand the law enforcement efforts and support the commitment to wildlife protection in the project's targeted areas. This has ensured that the project's activities are aligned with regional conservation priorities and governance frameworks.

Primary stakeholders, including local communities, hunters, traders, wildlife product consumers, and PFES contracted households, have been central to the project's success because they are the major stakeholders, the project aims to improve their awareness of wildlife protection and their behaviour change towards it.. Their perspectives and needs have been integral to shaping project activities, resulting in a more inclusive and sustainable approach to conservation.

In January 2024, the IWTCF delegation conducted a comprehensive mid-term review of the project. The delegation visited several project sites, including Cat Tien National Park and U Minh Ha National Park, where project activities were being directly implemented. Additionally, the delegation met with the HR, Administration, Accounting, and Project Coordination teams at Cuc Phuong NP. The results from the mid-term review will provide us with valuable suggestions for adjustments to the logframe, and show the significant findings and lessons learned thus far for this project. Both will help us to improve the quality and progress of the project and get us further towards the project goals of reducing poaching and the IWT of threatened species within and surrounding the key sites until it has reached near-zero levels.



Figure 1. Mid term review by IWT at SVW's office in Cat Tien National Park

### 3. Project progress

Following the MTR of the project in January 2024, the logframe has undergone significant changes – the version of the logframe included within this report is yet to be finalised with NIRAS through the formal Change Request process

#### 3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

##### Output 1: Strengthening law enforcement & ensuring effective legal frameworks

Between April and June 2023, we conducted two advanced SMART (desktop software and adaptive management theory) training courses and two SMART mobile (smartphone application) training workshops for National Parks and forest owners in Dong Nai, Kien Giang, and Ca Mau provinces. The primary aim was to enhance participants' capacity in using SMART for better forest protection management and biodiversity conservation [REDACTED]. In total, 45 participants in Dong Nai, Kien Giang and Ca Mau provinces, including forest protection departments, protective forest management units, and academic institutions attended the advanced SMART training. Following the training, 82.22% of participants demonstrated proficiency in using SMART. Additionally, 75 participants from Kien Giang and Ca Mau provinces, including forest protection departments and national parks, participated in SMART mobile training programs. After the training, 94.6% of participants were proficient in utilising SMART mobile for data collection in their works.

After incorporating feedback from SMART mobile trainings conducted, we deployed 71 smartphones to replace ineffective Blackview phones for patrol use. Additionally, we equipped rangers across three parks with 130 two-way radio transceivers and 20-night vision binoculars to enhance the effectiveness of their patrols. To improve ranger capacity in species identification and expedite response to violations, we installed 119 billboards with the illustration of endangered species near ranger stations (**Activity 1.2**).

From May 8 to May 14, 2023, SVW coordinated a study tour in Thailand, involving 23 members and representatives from five Vietnamese national parks: Cuc Phuong, Pu Mat, Cat Tien, U Minh Thuong, and U Minh Ha (**Activity 1.3**). The delegation comprised officials from the Forest Protection Department and park directors. The primary objective of the tour was to gather insights into Thailand's forest protection management and biodiversity monitoring practices. Key activities included visits to prominent Thai national parks such as Khao Yai and Thap Lan, as well as the Sakaerat Environmental Research Station. Additionally, participants explored various museums in Bangkok. Throughout the tour, attendees engaged with Thai experts, learning about advanced tools and methodologies including SMART, camera traps, drones, and GIS. This interaction facilitated a fruitful exchange of knowledge and ideas, enabling discussions on conservation challenges and avenues for future collaboration. Moreover, the tour has inspired park managers to consider adopting the management models observed in Thai parks and leveraging technology to enhance forest protection efficiency.

In 2023 and early 2024, the Anti-Poaching team collaborated with forest rangers at national park stations to gather information and compile lists of individuals involved in wildlife hunting and trafficking, aiming to prevent these activities or undertake awareness-raising measures to enhance community understanding of wildlife protection (**Activity 1.4**). In Cat Tien National Park, the team collaborated with local forest rangers to document 171 individuals, comprising 121 hunters and 14 traffickers. At U Minh Ha National Park, they gathered data on 24 individuals, whereas in U Minh Thuong National Park, the figure stood at 12.

Every year, we convene an annual meeting to review our activities within the parks and assess our impact on forest protection and biodiversity conservation (**Activity 1.9**). These gatherings also serve as platforms to address challenges faced by both parties and seek viable solutions. In March 2024, we held meetings with the management boards of Cat Tien NP, U Minh Thuong NP, and U Minh Ha NP, engaging their managers, leaders, and vice leaders of ranger stations. These discussions resulted in significant agreements aimed at enhancing project activities and improving the parks' protection efficiency. During these meetings, SMART task forces were established to oversee forest

protection personnel and ensure the unified deployment of SMART in ranger-led awareness-raising initiatives.

Additionally, criteria for evaluating the performance of rangers and Anti-Poaching team members were developed to form the basis for annual commendations. A comprehensive plan for the effective implementation of poacher cam deployments was also devised. Furthermore, collaborative efforts were outlined to conduct community engagement workshops at the commune level and to coordinate with interagency departments to inspect restaurants and execute commitment-signing activities. SVW pledged its support in devising procedures and enhancing the capacity of park personnel to effectively execute wildlife rescue and care operations within the parks.

A baseline survey was conducted in the last quarter of 2023 across three provinces located within the buffer zones of Cat Tien National Park (**Activity 1.7**). A total of 21 communes participated in the survey, during which representatives from 1,054 households were interviewed. During the survey, illegal wildlife activities related information was gathered including illicit wild animals in captivity, wildlife hunting and trading activities. Specifically, the preliminary analysis of observation data gathered during the survey reveals that 17 households have been found to be illegally keeping wild animals. The majority of these households (12) are situated in Lam Dong province, three in Dong Nai province and two in Binh Phuoc province. The most frequently kept wild animal is macaques (7), followed by snakes (3), monitor lizards (2), turtles (2), civets (1), porcupines (1), iguanas (1), and wild birds (1). These findings are valuable for the Anti-poaching team to investigate the wildlife market in the buffer zone and for the Demand Reduction team to identify target audiences for their campaigns.

Furthermore, qualitative data was collected and stored regarding the activities of local hunters (54), traders (16), local restaurants selling wildlife cuisine (8), and unregistered wildlife farms (2). Analysis of this data revealed that Lam Dong province has the highest number of identified hunters and traders, followed by Binh Phuoc and Dong Nai provinces, respectively. Preliminary analysis indicates that most local hunters prefer traps for capturing wildlife, followed by firearms and hunting dogs. Specialised tools such as digging implements are utilised for smaller species like bamboo rats, while knives are commonly used for trap retrieval and the butchering/collection of larger hunted animals in the field. It was observed that while many hunters target various wildlife indiscriminately, others focus on specific fauna such as chevrotain (12), civet (10), junglefowl (9), squirrel (9), bamboo rat (7), wild boar (5), primates (5), and snake (5), pangolin (4), and cobra (3). This database will be internally maintained for future activities aimed at combating illegal wildlife trade by Save Vietnam's Wildlife. Additionally, it will serve as a primary resource for the Anti-poaching team to identify hotspots for establishing forest monitoring trails and implementing effective educational and behavioural change programs targeting offenders.

SVW faced challenges in directly collaborating with provincial People's Committees to organize law enforcement workshops due to our nonprofit status. Despite efforts over the past year, finalizing arrangements with the government has been elusive. Discussions with both Provincial People's Committees and national parks, where SVW operates, led to the consensus that government-led workshops with SVW support are more feasible. Consequently, an agreement was reached among all stakeholders, facilitating the transfer of funds to Cat Tien National Park and U Minh Thuong National Park for the government authorities to spearhead workshop organization. SVW is cooperating with Cat Tien National Park and U Minh Thuong National Park in conducting these workshops. And this does not result in any alteration of the workshop content or the objectives we aim to achieve through the workshops. This will facilitate the implementation of four provincial-level workshops in Dong Nai, Binh Phuoc, Lam Dong, and Kien Giang (**Activity 1.5**), as well as eight district-level workshops in Tan Phu, Dinh Quan, Vinh Cuu, Bu Dang, Da Teh, Cat Tien, Bao Lam, and U Minh Thuong (**Activity 1.6**).

We successfully completed 11 commune-level workshops in the buffer zone of Cat Tien National Park. These workshops included Nam Cat Tien, Ta Lai, Dak Lua, and Thanh Son communes in Dong Nai province; Dong Nai Thuong, Tien Hoang, Gia Vien, Phuoc Cat 2, Da Kho, and Loc Bac in Lam Dong province; and Dang Ha in Binh Phuoc province (**Activity 1.8**). A total of 1,215 individuals attended, comprising 256 leaders and officials from state units, as well as 959 community members,

including respected locals, restaurant owners, hunters, and individuals who have breached forest protection laws in Vietnam. 1 leader and 2 staffs of Cat Tien National Park, 1 coordinator and 10 staffs of SVW organized 11 workshops.

In the years 2023-2024, Cat Tien National Park faced challenges due to a prolonged drought, which led the majority of people in the buffer zone to tend to their farms (watering croplands, maintaining livestock) for their livelihood. This necessity meant that they could not fully engage in the workshops. Taking the actual situation into account, SVW, in agreement with Cat Tien National Park and the People's Committees of the 11 communes, decided to conduct the event for half a day. The focus was on communication about forest and wildlife protection, as well as forest fire prevention and control. The program emphasised sharing information and minimised discussion time. Consequently, the Commune People's Committees were tasked with concluding the workshops and issuing directives to reinforce law enforcement in forest protection, wildlife conservation, and forest fire prevention and control within the 11 communes of the buffer zone.

To promote the law on wildlife protection to the people in the buffer zones around Cat Tien National Park, U Minh Thuong, and U Minh Ha (**Activity 1.10**), we completed 30 billboards at Cat Tien, 13 boards at Dong Nai Nature-Cultural Conservation Area, 7 billboards at U Minh Thuong, and 6 billboards at U Minh Ha in order to raise awareness for local people on wildlife protection issues. We have signed an agreement, transferred capital and are in the process of coordinating construction with U Minh Thuong National Park. We completed frames of billboards, there are no reported images because of hasn't field acceptance test.

## **Output 2: Communities continue to receive benefits from PFES**

Activities related to Output 2: Developing sustainable livelihoods, SVW has reached an agreement and begun implementing activities related to PFES – the Payment for Forest Environmental Services of the Vietnamese government. This is one of the programs that help develop sustainable livelihoods locally by allocating government environmental service funds to compensate families participating in forest protection. At Cat Tien National Park, households contracted for forest protection also participated in patrols alongside the park's forest rangers and SVW's anti-poaching team. Therefore, Cat Tien National Park wished to train these forces in using SMART mobile data entry. According to the agreement between Cat Tien National Park and SVW to train for PFES's force, the training program was divided into two courses: an intensive course for core forces, including team leaders/deputies, which comprised seven hours of theory and two practical sessions using SMART mobile during patrols after training, and a seven-hour theoretical course for all other contracted households.

The first two theoretical training sessions (**Activity 2.1**) were organised at Cat Tien National Park, including 77 core members, 01 representative leader from Cat Tien National Park, 06 rangers, and 02 coordinators and 03 staff of SVW over two days. The 07 hours of theoretical training provided knowledge about Cat Tien National Park; inspiring forest and wildlife protection; guiding procedures, principles, roles, and responsibilities in forest patrol; disseminating and updating legal regulations; and instructing on field data entry using SMART mobile. During the two intensive training sessions, 06 rangers and 14 contracted residents absented from the training course because they participated in firefighting cover fires (vegetation on the ground) at Cat Tien National Park. All core participants throughout the training were certified. 100% of participants commit not to use wildlife, and at the request of Cat Tien National Park, this is one of the mandatory compliance criteria for all households contracted to protect the forest. We signed an agreement, transferred funds and cooperated with Cat Tien National Park to continue deploying necessary skill training for the core forces, including first aid, situation handling, and practice in patrol data entry using SMART mobile. The core forces will have the responsibility to join SVW and Cat Tien National Park in supporting and guiding the contracted households within the community groups they manage.

## **Output 3: Reducing demand for IWT products.**

Activities related to *Output 3: Reducing demand for IWT products*, have made significant progress in building a baseline for evaluation and implementing a well-designed intervention plan to reduce demand for wildlife consumption around 3 key sites. Two pre-intervention surveys were conducted in May 2023: one in Cat Tien NP and the other in U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha NP (**Activity 3.2**). A total of 810 community members were surveyed, revealing insightful knowledge of community

perceptions, attitudes and consumption patterns in each site prior to the intervention. Regarding patterns of consumption, the survey revealed variations among the buffer-zone communities. The UMT communities had the highest percentage of wild meat consumers, while Cat Tien had the lowest. The reported reasons for consuming wildlife included factors such as being invited to consume, curiosity, and the perceived quality and health benefits of wild meat. The survey responses also indicated that respondents from Cat Tien and U Minh Thuong buffer-zone communes were more likely to consider consuming wildlife in the future. This finding suggests the importance of addressing the underlying motivations and cultural factors driving the demand for wild meat in these areas. Additionally, the study revealed that there is a lack of understanding regarding wildlife laws in the surveyed communities.

In year 2, we experienced continued delay in organising 5 launching workshops for demand reduction campaigns in 5 provinces (**Activity 3.3**). However, Dong Nai and Ca Mau province have granted permission to implement the campaign on the provincial level and are currently reviewing our submitted action plans; Kien Giang province is reviewing our request to implement the campaign.

Based on data from our background research conducted in year 1, we developed an intervention communication plan to be carried out through our billboard and poster campaign (**Activity 3.4 & 3.5**). The final package consists of 2 billboard designs and 5 poster designs. The designs incorporate culturally and locally relevant themes and promote behavior change through the use of social norms; local messengers, and demand reduction messaging. Between December and March, we completed the installation of 943 posters in administrative offices, community buildings and public spaces of 19 towns and communes in Dong Nai, Lam Dong, Binh Phuoc, and Kien Giang province. Working with construction units, we also completed the production of 150 billboard frames that will be installed in the following quarters upon permission from the provincial government (due to the regulations associated with large-sized outdoor billboards).

As part of our communication and media works, we successfully produced 2 media short films in collaboration with 3 sites (**Activity 3.6**). The two films highlight the natural beauty of wildlife and biodiversity inside the parks as well as the inspiring stories of wildlife conservation from the people within the communities. We are actively working with national and local television channels to broadcast these media productions soon in year 3. Our social media performance through our Facebook page and website also grew exponentially from 500 followers at the beginning of the project to 6,000 followers (**Activity 3.7**). This was the result of our collaboration with a media agency to strategize and implement a social media plan for improved engagement of the general public with our demand reduction messages.

### 3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

**Output 1: Inter-agency law enforcement surrounding three key pangolin sites have established a formal partnership and have the capacity to understand IWT issues, collaborate intuitively, and utilise data sharing and technological advancements to combat illegal wildlife trade more effectively.**

#### ***1.1 78 rangers in U Minh Thuong National Parks and U Minh Ha National Park complete SMART Mobile training by quarter 2 year 2 (30 in UMTNP and 48 in UMHNP)***

20 rangers in UMTNP and 30 rangers in UMHNP attended the SMART Mobile training workshops. The percentage of rangers in UMTNP who were proficient in using SMART increased from 11.8% to 100% after the training workshop ( ). This figure in UMHNP increased from 15% to 100% after the training workshop ( ). Other rangers who were unavailable on the training day would receive the support from the Anti-poaching team in their sites to enhance their capacity in using SMART mobile on their patrols.

#### ***1.2 By quarter 4 of year 2, managers from three key sites are proficient in utilizing SMART data for decision-making and by quarter 4 of year 3, demonstrate a commitment to its continued integration beyond the project period.***

4 staff of UMTNP, 7 staff of UMHNP and 12 staff of CTNP, who are leaders in their sites, attended the Advance SMART training workshops, focusing on SMART analysis and reports from patrol data. After the workshops, 77.8% of CTNP's staff ( [REDACTED] ) and 93.8% of staff of UMTNP and UMHNP ( [REDACTED] ) were proficient in using SMART query for analysis and reporting. Currently, 4 leaders in CTNP, and 3 leaders each in UMTNP and UMHNP are able to do data analysis and report generation using the SMART system.

Three protected areas have integrated SMART into their patrol regulations, mandating that every patrol be monitored using SMART technology. Patrol performance will be evaluated based on data collected through SMART.

Evidence: [REDACTED]

### **1.3 A list of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites was established by quarter 4 of year 2**

We have been documenting information of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites.

Cat Tien National Park: 135 hunters and 14 traffickers

U Minh Thuong National Park: 12 hunters

U Minh Ha National Park: 25 hunters

Evidence: 1.3.1 & 1.3.2 List of local hunters and traders around the parks

### **1.4 Knowledge of trafficking networks around three key sites was known by the end of year 3**

The information of trafficking networks in three key sites has been collected along with information of targeted hunters and traders. We are investigating the relationship between hunter groups and traders in the buffer zones.

### **1.5 A formal collaboration among inter-agency law enforcements in three key sites was established by quarter 2 year 3 to tackle the IWT.**

We are working to establish partnerships among interagency law enforcement departments to combat illegal wildlife activities. Our initial step involved introducing SMART to various law enforcement agencies through four SMART training workshops. Participants included the Dong Nai Forest Protection Department, Long Thanh Protective Forest Management Unit, Xuan Loc Protective Forest Management Unit, Tan Phu Protective Forest Management Unit, Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve, La Nga - Dong Nai Forestry Company Limited, Tan Mai Corporation Joint Stock Company (Southeast branch), the Agricultural Service Center of Dong Nai province, Vietnam National University of Forestry at Dong Nai (VNUF), Kien Giang and Ca Mau Forest Protection Departments, the U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha National Parks, and Kien Giang Protective Forest Management Unit.

We are still maintaining the SMART Connect database which includes data of 3 key sites of the project and Pu Mat National Park.

### **1.6 Trend of pangolin seizures around three key sites was understood by quarter 4 year 3**

During the reporting period, there were five cases of Sunda pangolin seizure within the project's key site provinces, with four occurring in close proximity to Cat Tien National Park and one near U Minh Thuong National Park. Each case, one Sunda pangolin was confiscated. Overall, there are no large-scale operations occurring within the project's sites during this period.

Evidence: 1.6.1 [REDACTED]



There were no records of prosecutions involving the key species happening in Dong Nai during the reporting period. However, in March 2024, a trial in Tan Phu district of Dong Nai province dealt with six offenders who had illegally poached inside Cat Tien National Park and attacked rangers. They received a combined total sentence of 20 years. [Link](#)

***1.7 Local communities around three key sites are provided with knowledge about wildlife law by the end of year 3.***

1215 people participated in 11 Workshops. More than 72% of those who participated in the post-event survey. Analytical results revealed that approximately 96% of the surveyed participants acknowledged the significance of Cat Tien National Park, demonstrated knowledge of the law, and achieved a correct response rate of over 84%. Nearly 99% of the surveyed participants pledged not to use wildlife illegally and nearly 95% agreed to report any violations they detect in Cat Tien National Park. A system of billboards in public spaces, main entrances to national parks around 3 key sites has been deployed to help provide content about law enforcement to the local community.

*Evidence: 1.7.1 [A technical report](#)*

*Evidence: 1.7.2 [The maps of the system billboards](#)*

**Output 2: Communities are educated about penalties and punishments associated with poaching, and are oriented toward sustainable sources of income, and turn away from illegal wildlife hunting and trade**

***2.1 80% of PFES households are trained to participate in forest protection patrols and perform contract tasks with Cat Tien National Park, through 10 training workshops from Quarter 4 of Year 2 to Quarter 2 of Year 3***

77 core members of PFES participated the intensive training sessions. All core members will have the responsibility to join SVW and Cat Tien National Park training, guiding and supporting the contracted households within the community groups they manage.

*Evidence 2.1 [List of workshop participants](#)*

***2.2 Knowledge and understanding towards penalties and punishments associated with poaching of PFES members increased after participating in the PFES training workshops***

*Evidence 2.2.1 [An evaluation form](#) and [Certificates](#)*

*Evidence 2.2.2 [A technical report](#)*

***2.3 All PFES and rangers are provided and used an educational PFES training tool kit in their work between quarter 4 year 2 and quarter 4 year 3 to manage their designated forest areas***

The toolkit has been compiled into a presentation with the most important information and necessary documents. We have connected the leaders of Cat Tien National Park, representatives of 21 ranger stations, and all members who participated in the intensive training on a chat group on the Zalo app to continue the connection, regularly update information, and share knowledge



Evidence 2.3.1 01 Presentation.

**2.4 At the end of year 3, analysis of patrol results shows that at least 80% of PFES groups (47 groups, in 2024) participate in patrols and complete forest patrol data entry using SMART Mobile**

Core members are participating in forest patrols with rangers and anti-poaching team, and practicing data entry on SMART mobile. We will provide evidences at the end of year 3

**Output 3: Collaboration with local authorities and media towards demand reduction actions has been built and maintained; the first baseline toward demand reduction in 4 areas of 3 key sites created for conservation actions needed. A series of conservation actions toward demand reduction intervened in the area for the first time, therefore, impacting their awareness, attitude, and behaviour of consuming wildlife products**

**3.1 By quarter 1 year 2, an intervention proposal toward demand reduction of wildlife products at 3 key sites has been developed based on baseline from background research.**

Based on the findings from background research, we developed an intervention package which includes our demand reduction recommendations for 3 key sites based on key findings of background research and a detailed description of our proposed intervention activities based on such recommendations. We also dedicated a section to explain the behavior change frameworks and approaches being used, which further provides a scientific rationale for our interventions.

Evidence: 3.1.2 Intervention Proposal

**3.2 By quarter 2 year 3, an action plan toward demand reduction for each province of 3 key sites has been issued to implement the campaign.**

In Year 2, we continued to maintain close collaboration with local authorities as they are central to implementing our activities. To launch the demand reduction campaign in each province, we first considered partnering with central governmental agencies such as the Department of Nature Conservation and Biodiversity and then the Department of Environmental Police to approach provincial-level government. However, given the delayed response time from these agencies, we re-considered our strategy and connected with the provincial government through our park partners: Cat Tien National Park, U Minh Thuong National Park, and U Minh Ha National Park. We submitted 3 action plans for the demand reduction campaign with a detailed plan of implementation for each project activity and the roles of departments and agencies at the provincial and lower levels. By the end of year 2, we successfully secured permission from Dong Nai and Ca Mau to implement the campaign and are awaiting approval from Kien Giang on our proposed action plan. We are also

following up closely with Cat Tien National Park to finalize the action plan to be sent to Lam Dong and Binh Phuoc province.

*Evidence:* 3.2.1 Action plans under review

**3.3 From quarter 3 year 2 to 4 year 3, a set of intervention activities (including billboard, poster, community nights) has been implemented widely around 3 key sites to take effect in the community.**

By the end of year 2, we have completed the installation of 943 posters in administrative offices, community buildings, and public spaces around Cat Tien and U Minh Thuong National Park, except U Minh Ha National Park which will be installed soon in Year 3. This poster helped to distribute the messages of demand reduction and wildlife conservation to the local communities. The production of 150 billboard frames has also been accomplished for installation in the following project year.

*Evidence:*

3.3.1 Design of campaign intervention

3.3.2 Documents issued by local authorities on campaign material distribution and acceptance

3.3.3 System of intervention distributed

**3.4 By quarter 4 year 3, at least 80% of people surveyed say that they approve of the messages and visuals of the campaign materials.**

Our pre-intervention surveys conducted in 3 key sites have provided a baseline on wildlife consumption and perspectives on consuming wild meat of local communities. Post-surveys will be carried out by the end of Year 3 to identify community's perceptions towards the visuals and messages of the campaign materials.

*Evidence:* 3.4.1 Report on pre-intervention survey

**3.5 By quarter 4 year 3, 80% of restaurants identified with wildlife sales have participated in the restaurant campaign and signed pledges to not sell wildlife products.**

We collaborated with SVW's antipoaching officers based at each project site to retrieve information on local restaurants with illegal wildlife activities. However, further investigation is required to finalize an accurate list. In Year 3, we will work with the People's Committee of districts around project sites to discuss the implementation plan for the restaurant campaign.

*Evidence:*

3.5.2 Pledge template for restaurant owners

**3.6 The community is engaged with messages and knowledge from the campaign through media products created and delivered on multimedia platforms (television, Facebook, website) in year 1, year 2, year 3.**

As part of our communication and media works, we successfully produced 2 media short films in collaboration with 3 sites and are actively working with national and local television channels to broadcast these media productions soon in year 3. Our social media performance through our Facebook page and website also grew exponentially from 500 followers at the beginning of the project to 6,000 followers, indicating that community members also expressed interest and engagement with our messages. Based on field observations and frequent check-in with local government representatives, we found that our demand reduction messages received significant attention and endorsement from the local government.

*Evidence:*

3.6.1 Two (02) short films completed

3.6.3 Report on social media engagement

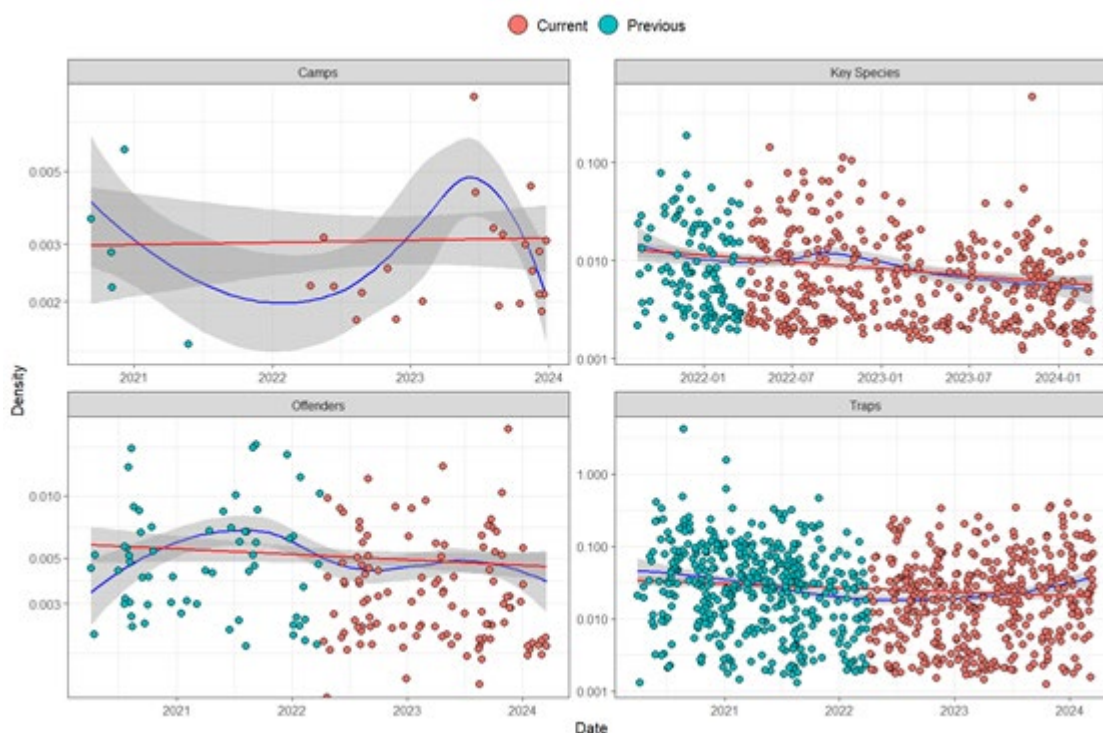
### 3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Poaching and IWT of threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%.

#### 0.1 Number of illegal activities (hunting and snaring threatened species) in Cat Tien National Park decreased by 30% at the end of the project

We conducted a comparative analysis of illegal activities—encampment, traps, and offenders—in CTNP over two years before (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2022) and two years after (01/04/2022 to 31/03/2024) the project commenced in this area. Overall, there was a 16.8% reduction in the number of traps. Notably, large cable traps decreased by 11.9%, while snare traps saw an 8.8% increase. Encampments and encounters with offenders (individuals found within the forest) showed a slight increase of 0.3% and 1%, respectively. However, it's important to note that prior to 2022, rangers primarily focused on recording trap removal in SMART, potentially leading to an underestimation of encampments and encounters with offenders.

0.1.1



Linear trends in illegal activity and key species sightings during the current and previous reporting periods. Red lines indicate increasing, decreasing, or neutral linear trends of the density per km patrolled of each value. Blue lines represent a localised regression trend showing the fluctuations in the data.

#### 0.2 SMART baselines have been fully established within U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha national parks and are being used by SVW and two national parks to monitor patrol activity.

SMART data collected from 01/01/2021 to 31/3/2024 in U Minh Ha National Park to establish a baseline:

Number of traps: 785

Number of firearms: 0

Number of camps: 2

Number of offenders: 54

Number of violation records: 25

Number of administration sanctions: 12

Number of prosecutions: 1

SMART data collected from 01/01/2022 to 31/3/2024 in U Minh Ha National Park to establish a baseline:

Number of traps: 60

Number of firearms: 0

Number of camps: 1

Number of offenders: 11

Number of violation records: 9

Number of administration sanctions: 0

Number of prosecutions: 0

#### 0.2.1 [SMART report in UMTNP and UMHNP](#)

### **0.3 10% of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites were arrested at the end of the project**

Since March 2023, the rangers and Anti-poaching team in UMTNP have apprehended 19 individuals for illegal entry into the forest. Among them, 5 were hunters, with 3 of them being identified on the targeted hunters list. These three hunters were issued violation records for subsequent punishment. As for the remaining two hunters, one received an administrative sanction, while the other was subjected to prosecution. In UMHNP, only one was a hunter among 11 apprehended people.

Since April 2022, the rangers and Anti-poaching team in CTNP have apprehended 69 individuals for illegal entry into the forest. Among them, 18 were hunters, while the others were local individuals engaged in activities such as collecting non-timber products or bringing hunting and collecting tools. It's worth noting that the actual number of hunters might have been higher, as 7 managed to escape successfully. Thirteen of the apprehended hunters were issued violation records for subsequent punishment. Additionally, two out of the 18 hunters apprehended were identified on the targeted hunters list.

#### 0.3.1 [Targeted hunters and traders list](#)

#### 0.3.3 [List of apprehended hunters](#)

### **Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT**

#### **0.4 By quarter 4 year 3, 50% households of PFES (out of 1234 households participating in PFES in 2024) completed terms of contracts and successfully renewed agreements with Cat Tien National Park.**

The core members of PFES have undergone intensive theoretical training and continue to practise through participation in forest protection patrols with the ranger forces. We are working with Cat Tien National Park to complete a set of documents and a training plan for all remaining PFES members in the second quarter of year 3, and a plan to monitor the patrol process with rangers in the third quarter of the year. 3.

### **Surrounding communities value biodiversity and disavow wildlife trade/consumption.**

A set of interventions and campaign materials was developed and distributed to three key sites, spreading awareness and messages about the importance of conserving biodiversity and the consequences of wildlife consumption and trade. The intervention will take place in the communities for at least 12 months, and its impacts on the changing community perceptions toward wildlife trade and consumption will be measured in our post-intervention surveys. The analysis of post-intervention surveys in Year 3 will assess the changes in the number of people who value wildlife and biodiversity (**Indicator 0.5**) and the number of people who will not be willing to consume wild meat (**Indicator 0.6**).

### 3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

During the implementation of activities in Year 2, we encountered some challenges and obstacles associated with some assumptions that were indicated in the proposal:

Assumptions were revised according to the major revision of logframe. Please see the new assumptions in the updated logframe.

**Assumption 3.2 & 3.3:** Workshop and intervention delivery occur as planned.

**Comments:** COVID-19 disruptions or natural disasters did not have any impact on the delivery of workshop, research and intervention activities. However, many workshops and part of the intervention could not deliver as scheduled due to the delayed response and lengthy paperwork process from provincial governmental authorities despite having obtained their permission. This was an important assumption/risk factor that was not included in the proposal.

**Assumption 3.7:** Media agencies actively broadcast and promote information about campaign activities and materials.

**Comments:** Whether media and communication agencies decide to promote our intervention is entirely dependent upon the content and angle direction of each media agency. In fact, very few of them have a focus on environmental issues. To manage this assumption, we compiled a list of potential media contacts to get in touch and send press releases for our activities, which is a combination of SVW's media list and local media contacts within our project sites. We also worked closely with the Communication team of SVW to promote coverage of our activities on our organization-run platforms and to other media partners.

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

The project is making a significant contribution to higher-level impacts on tackling the illegal wildlife trade and supporting poverty reduction in Vietnam. The focus on dismantling the illegal pangolin trade involves several key strategies:

**Enhancing law enforcement capacity:** by providing training and support to law enforcement agencies and rangers, the project helps improve their ability to detect, monitor, and prosecute illegal wildlife activities. This leads to more effective protection of endangered species in the three key sites, including hairy-nosed otters, fishing cats, serows, and gibbons. Evidence of this can be found in the increased number of arrests and prosecutions of wildlife criminals, as well as the use of advanced technology like SMART and PoacherCams for monitoring illegal activities.

**Fostering interagency collaboration:** the project facilitates partnerships among different law enforcement agencies, leading to better coordination and cooperation in combating illegal wildlife trade. This collaboration enhances the overall effectiveness of law enforcement efforts and supports the establishment of a unified front against wildlife trafficking.

**Raising awareness:** by conducting workshops and educational campaigns, the project raises awareness of the dangers and consequences of illegal wildlife trade among local communities, government agencies, and other stakeholders. This increased awareness helps shift public perception and reduce demand for illegal wildlife products.

**Creating alternative livelihoods:** the project supports local communities by providing opportunities for sustainable livelihoods that do not rely on hunting or trading wildlife. This not only helps reduce poverty but also lessens the pressure on local wildlife populations.

Through these efforts, the project contributes to a higher-level impact on illegal wildlife trade by reducing poaching and trafficking activities. Additionally, the project supports human development and wellbeing by providing alternative livelihoods and reducing reliance on illegal wildlife trade, which can be a significant driver of poverty. Overall, the project's multifaceted approach plays a crucial role in achieving long-term conservation goals and improving the quality of life for local communities.

## 4. Thematic focus

### 1. Reducing demand for IWT products

In this project, SVW implemented a campaign toward demand reduction of wildlife products in 5 provinces around 3 key sites - the first intervention of this type in the area - through an evidence-based and behavioural science approach. Drawing from the analyses and findings of background surveys, we then developed an intervention package that aimed to raise awareness and promote behaviour change in local communities through social norms messaging and framing. Furthermore, we expect that our demand reduction impacts on buffer zone communities will be intensified by our local efforts at each site to strengthen law enforcement and develop alternative livelihoods for local communities, including wildlife offenders.

### 2. Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents

To enhance legal frameworks and deterrents, this project prioritises raising awareness among interagency law enforcement units through workshops and training sessions. We also strengthen collaboration between different agencies to improve the arrest and prosecution processes. We initially introduced SMART to different sectors, including park rangers, district-level Forest Department units, and forest companies, to help them adopt a standardised tool for recording forest-related data. Additionally, we contributed to revising Decree 06/2019/ND-CP to address challenges in species identification and enhance expert assessment during confiscation, expediting the transition from arrest to prosecution.

### 3. Strengthening law enforcement

We trained park rangers and other law enforcement units at three key sites to use advanced technology like the SMART tool for patrols. This tool improved the quality and quantity of patrol data, enabling managers to make evidence-based decisions in a timely manner. After training, 100% of rangers at the three sites could use SMART mobile for data collection. PoacherCams were deployed to immediately detect offenders and quickly inform law enforcement for rapid response, enhancing efficiency in apprehending violators. PoacherCam reports led to 36 arrests. The project also provided rangers with essential equipment such as smartphones, two-way radios, and night vision binoculars to improve their work efficiency and safety.

To date, our accomplishments include:

- **100% rangers** in three key sites use SMART mobile in their patrols.
- More than **80% of participants** from interagency law enforcement units were proficient in using SMART.
- Removed **9122 traps** and arrested **221 offenders** in patrols
- Rescued **13 live animals** from traps
- Documented **186 hunters and traders** in three key sites
- Released **64 Sunda pangolins** in Cat Tien National Park

### 4. Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT

During this project phase, SVW focused on building the capacity of PFES program participants, who are directly affected by IWT, in improving legal knowledge, patrol skills and data entry using a SMART mobile device. This program contributes to helping people complete the requirements and terms of PFES contracts, recognizing efforts, from which they will be continued to renew their contracts and receive benefits from the Vietnamese government.

## 5. Impact on species in focus

This project aims to dismantle the illegal wildlife trade of Sunda pangolins by enhancing law enforcement efforts and raising awareness within local communities across three key areas. In the project's second year, we rescued 41 Sunda pangolins from trafficking and released them in Cat Tien National Park—nearly double the number from the first year. Additionally, the overall number of Sunda pangolin seizures nationwide slightly decreased from 54 to 52 cases compared to the

previous year. This indicates progress toward reducing illegal trade and highlights the importance of sustained efforts to protect this endangered species.

## 6. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

During the current reporting period, the project's efforts to support poverty reduction have centred on increasing awareness about wildlife consumption, trade, and legislation. Although this has not yet conveyed significant strides in poverty alleviation, it is a crucial aspect of SVW's wider initiative to draw communities into more effective conservation practices.

Key activities have included increasing the capabilities of forest rangers and local authorities in areas such as Cat Tien NP, U Minh Thuong NP, and U Minh Ha NP, and enhancing law enforcement to encourage and implement better management and wildlife population growth, which in turn is expected to boost tourism. The project has also worked on developing the capacity of local communities to sustain their income and protect the forests and wildlife, particularly around vital pangolin habitats, while introducing alternative income sources to diminish the dependence on illegal activities.

Targeted interventions have been made to engage local hunters and communities with messages that reduce demand and offer alternative livelihoods, alongside advocating for policy enhancements, including the "Community Forest Guard" program under Decree 01 and revisions to wildlife protection laws.

Collaboration with the Vietnam CITES Management Authority to amend critical decrees, conducting research, and presenting findings to influence policy changes and increase effective wildlife protection have been part of the advocacy and research efforts. Looking ahead, the project plans to provide private sector livelihood alternatives and build local ecotourism capacity, as well as implement the Community Forest Guard program to involve locals in forest monitoring and education.

The beneficiaries of these efforts include communities impacted by human-wildlife conflict, impoverished individuals, PFES households, and those involved in wildlife trafficking. While the project's components are still in progress and notable achievements in the intended outcomes are pending, the foundation established through policy advocacy, community engagement, and capacity building is anticipated to aid in long-term poverty reduction and conservation success.

## 7. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Over the last fiscal year, There was Ms. Le Thi Ngoc Lam as its sole female anti-poaching team member. She resigned in February 2024, involved coordinating anti-poaching efforts and conducting field patrols. Her involvement stands as a significant accomplishment, highlighting the rare yet valuable participation of women in forest protection roles such as rangers and forest guards. Her contributions have set a precedent for increased diversity in conservation efforts with more directed efforts to recruit and employ new female anti-poaching rangers to replace Ms. Lam

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board <sup>1</sup> .	<b>8</b> – 1 anti-poacher, 1 education outreach coordinator, 1 education outreach officer, 1 demand reduction coordinator, 1 education outreach intern, 1 project coordinator, 1 financial staff, 1 administration staff.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which	Project partners are government managers and staff of the three key sites, consisting of <b>7.7% Female representatives</b> . This is likely due to the fact that the majority of the staff positions are

<sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup> .	ranger roles, which traditionally have not garnered significant interest from women. SVW consistently employs a higher percentage of women in our staff teams, representing over 60% of our total staff.	
<b>GESI Scale</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Put X where you think your project is on the scale</b>
<b>Not yet sensitive</b>	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
<b>Sensitive</b>	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	x
<b>Empowering</b>	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
<b>Transformative</b>	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

## 8. Monitoring and evaluation

SVW has effectively utilized the capabilities of base.vn for comprehensive project management. Developed by Base Enterprise JSC, this software is a robust digital solution inspired by globally recognized management models. It streamlines business processes, including human resource management and project execution, enhances efficiency and effectiveness. Compatible with both desktop and mobile platforms (iOS and Android), base.vn's suite of integrated applications supports multilingual functionality (Vietnamese, English) and undergoes regular updates.

The platform's design allows for meticulous task tracking and management, promoting collaborative project oversight and progress sharing among team members. A dedicated database for uploading project KPIs further augments this system. Regular team meetings, ranging from weekly to monthly, coupled with daily direct communication, ensure diligent monitoring and coordination of work. In accordance with IWT's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) criteria, SVW have adhered to the stipulated project management KPIs and maintain consistent engagement with IWT to discuss and ensure project quality. This includes reflection meetings, mid-term reviews by IWT, and strategic dialogues. Additionally, IWT supports coaching on safeguarding, reinforcing our commitment to implement the project on time and effectively.

Since November 2023, SVW has been making monthly reports for IWT. This practice not only serves as a reporting mechanism but also as a strict tool for overseeing project progression and maintaining quality standards, driving the project towards its goals. The (M&E) efforts at SVW are a collaborative endeavour that extends beyond our organisation to include key partners such as the staff of Cat Tien National Park, U Minh Thuong, U Minh Ha, and the dedicated rangers. These play partners play a crucial role in the ongoing success of the project. SVW engages in regular dialogues with these stakeholders to refine project implementation, set clear directions, assign tasks, and develop solutions to address any emerging challenges. For instance, SVW shares valuable data on hunters,

<sup>2</sup> 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.

wildlife trade restaurants, and indicators of wildlife trade and trafficking, as well as periodic SMART reports with these key partners. Such collaborative efforts empower the governmental authorities to strengthen forest conservation measures and ensure the effective execution of the project.

In March 2024, SVW coordinated with three National Parks to conduct the annual meetings. These meetings reviewed all activities in 2023 and made a detailed plan for the year 2024 within these project sites. These meetings offer the best opportunity for all participants, including SVW and key partners, to evaluate project interventions and to identify solutions for upcoming challenges in 2024.

## **9. Lessons learnt**

### ***Establish connections with key stakeholders at the beginning of the project and be adaptable in the implementation process.***

In Year 2, we encountered persisting challenges of connecting with provincial governments at the 5 provinces, with the most time spent not on obtaining approval to implement the campaign, but the paperwork process entailed to finalize and issue the detailed action plan. The ideal strategy would be, once the action plan is issued by the provincial leaders to lower-level government, we will implement the activities as planned. However, given the significant delay in the approval process with the provincial government, we must maintain flexibility and adapt our strategy to ensure project activities could be carried out in a timely manner. For example, with some activities like commune-level workshops or poster campaigns, we worked directly with the People's Committee of the communes through our park partners to organise the workshops or install the posters.

### ***On-site project staff plays an important role in ensuring a smooth and timely implementation of project activities***

From our experiences this past year, many of our governmental partners are more difficult to reach via remote communication, and the most effective means of communication is through in-person meetings or check-ins. At Cat Tien National Park for example, project implementation takes place without any major hindrance as SVW has a considerable number of staff based at our Cat Tien office, including IWT project officers. Compared to U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha National Park, our staff is limited to 1-2 anti-poaching officers at each site, and the paperwork process takes longer without staff dedicated to the project based at these areas.

### ***Project planning should be more carefully considered to avoid the overlap in agendas with local government.***

When planning for workshops activities at the commune levels, we encountered scheduling conflicts with our partners during the fire season. All 3 project sites are located in Southern Vietnam and are extremely susceptible to forest fires between April and June, during which the majority of their personnel, including management, rangers, PFES community members, are dedicated to fire prevention activities.

### ***The campaign and its messages should be delivered by more diverse communication mediums to enhance the outreach and effectiveness.***

The communities living in the buffer zone of Cat Tien National Park are made up of diverse ethnic minority groups, particularly in communes such as Ta Lai, Dong Nai Thuong, or Loc Bac. In these communities, part of the population do not read standard Vietnamese, making them inaccessible to the text content on campaign materials such as posters and billboards. It would be more accessible for local communities in remote communes if the message is delivered through small meetings and workshops with the participation of local people. Besides, many people from these communities are living in relocation zones with minimum living conditions, and modern media channels such as TV and the Internet are still uncommon to many households. Therefore, utilising other mediums of communication such as the local public speaker should be considered in future projects to optimise communication and outreach impacts.

***The project team should increase internal capacity in risk planning, communication, and overall project management.***

The IWT project team is located in multiple offices across the country, which means that the majority of communication and coordination occurs virtually. This poses a challenge for the team when communicating on unexpected issues or emergencies, thus requiring a higher level of proactivity, coordination, and delegation in the decision making process. Moreover, this project also marks the beginning of SVW's partnership with 3 national parks and 5 associated provinces, each having a different political climate, structure, or process. In future projects involving multiple stakeholders, especially key leaders of higher governmental levels, it is crucial that the project team collaboratively discuss and finalise a strategy to connect with relevant governmental actors in advance, including back-up plans to be deployed when certain risks or issues arise. Overall, the project team should continuously work to increase communication and project management capacity to ensure efficient implementation of future projects.

## **10. Actions taken in response to previous reviews**

Following the mid-term review, IWT provided SVW with a Mid Term Review Aide Memoire outlining key findings. The project encountered delays due to government approval processes for Activities 1.6 and 1.7, which involve conducting workshops to bolster law enforcement and create action plans against IWT in various provinces and districts. Consequently, these workshops have been postponed. Although the timelines were revised in a Change Request approved in November 2023, an updated logframe has provided more realistic goals.

Discrepancies have been observed between the initial logframe and the one currently used for reporting. Addressing this, along with safeguarding and performance management concerns, SVW's revised the logframe, adjusted indicators, and resolved other highlighted issues, with the amended version submitted to IWT in February 2024 and subsequently approved. In terms of performance management, SVW has been submitting monthly reports since November 2023. Additionally, on March 27th, IWT facilitated a safeguarding policy coaching session. Our team is actively incorporating the insights from this session to revise safeguarding measures, aiming to enhance the working environment and ensure the utmost safety for all stakeholders throughout the project's duration.

## **11. Risk Management**

The implementation of Decree No. 80/2020/ND-CP by the Vietnamese government has increased regulatory oversight of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and their activities, specifically concerning the management and use of grant aid from foreign sources. This heightened scrutiny poses several risks to Save Vietnam's Wildlife (SVW) and other non-profit organizations (NPOs), as they must navigate a more complex legal and operational landscape. The stricter enforcement of Decree No. 80/2020/ND-CP requires SVW to comply with more stringent reporting and auditing requirements for foreign grants. This could lead to delays in project funding and execution, affecting the project's progress and outcomes. Adapting to new government regulations has necessitated changes in SVW's project implementation approach, including revising the project logframe and adjusting workshop series organization. The authorities are struggling to keep up with the enforcement of Decree No. 80/2020/ND-CP, potentially causing delays in the project's progress. To mitigate these risks, SVW has proactively revised its project logframe to better reflect the current situation and engaged in extensive collaboration with the authorities to identify optimal solutions. By adapting its approach and aligning closely with government regulations, SVW aims to ensure continued progress toward project goals while navigating the challenges presented by the changing regulatory environment.

## 12. Sustainability and legacy

To ensure the enduring impact and legacy of our project, we've adopted a strategic approach that underscores the importance of sustainability:

Project Profile and Promotion:

Over the past year, SVW has diligently worked with key stakeholders, including the management boards of Cat Tien National Park, U Minh Thuong National Park, and U Minh Ha National Park, as well as Forest Ranger department and the People's Committees of five provinces within the project's scope. Our collaborative efforts have been pivotal in reaching consensus on various provincial activities. Moreover, we've actively engaged local communities and spearheaded awareness campaigns to reduce wildlife consumption.

Evidence of Increased Engagement and Capacity:

The project's success is reflected in the accelerated engagement and deepened involvement of local stakeholders. Our key partners have gained a more profound understanding of the project, contributing more significantly to the planning and execution of activities, thereby fostering continuous motivation and progress.

Sustaining Project Benefits:

The foundational sustainable benefits that were envisioned at the project's inception continue to be a guiding force in our operations. Still, SVW stands ready to adapt its initial plans to meet changing needs and circumstances, ensuring the project's ongoing relevance and effectiveness.

## 13. IWT Challenge Fund identity

Our project has promoted the IWT Challenge Fund, acknowledged the UK Government's support, and highlighted the fund's distinct identity. Awareness of the fund is increasing among relevant groups, and our social media efforts have spread its message.

<https://svw.vn/2023/06/pre-campaign-survey-with-local-communities-in-the-buffer-zone-cat-tien-u-minh-thuong-u-minh-ha-national-parks/>

<https://svw.vn/donor-partners/>

## 14. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	<i>Safeguarding focal point: Duong [REDACTED]</i>
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes: on 27/3/2024: Safeguarding training by Abida [REDACTED], IWT  21/2/2024: Implementing Partner Compliance and Safeguarding Issues by USAID

<p>What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?</p>	<p>Past (2023): 100% of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding (11 staff)</p>
<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>100% of our project staff have been carefully trained and have signed the safeguarding policy and code of conduct; therefore, there have been no issues up to now</p>	
<p>Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.</p> <p>We will conduct a thorough review of our current safeguarding measures and provide training to staff as needed</p>	

## 15. Project expenditure

**Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2023-March 2024)**

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual IWTCF Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Salary for anti-poaching team				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>456,720</b>	<b>456,720</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)**

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 16. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

N/A

**17. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far**

N/A

<b>File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)</b>	<b>File Name or File Location</b>	<b>Caption, country and credit</b>	<b>Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)</b>	<b>Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)</b>
				Yes / No

**Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2023-2024**

Following the MTR of the project in January 2024, the logframe has undergone significant changes – the version of the logframe included within this report is yet to be finalised with NIRAS through the formal Change Request process

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>Illegal wildlife trade chain in Vietnam is dismantled from the bottom up</p>			
<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>Poaching and IWT- threatened species within and surrounding key sites has decreased by 30%.</p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT of threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%.</b></p> <p>0.1 Number of illegal activities (hunting and snaring threatened species) in Cat Tien National Park decreased by 30% at the end of the project</p> <p>0.2 SMART baselines have been fully established within U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha national parks and being used by SVW and two national parks to monitor patrol activity</p> <p>0.3 10% of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites were arrested at the end of the project</p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT of threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%.</b></p> <p>In CTNP, the number of traps has decreased by 16.8% although the number of camps and offenders still slightly increased. <b>(Indicator 0.1)</b></p> <p>Baselines of threats in UMTNP and UMHNP have been established by collecting patrol data using SMART Mobile. <b>(Indicator 0.2)</b></p> <p>A list of 186 hunters and traders in three key sites were created. 24 hunters were apprehended during the patrols in three key sites <b>(Indicator 3)</b></p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT of threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%.</b></p> <p>Next year, we will continue to enhance the capacity of rangers in using SMART technology during patrols and provide advanced training for rangers in SMART data analysis and reporting. We aim to optimise the effectiveness of PoacherCams for detecting illegal activities and improve response strategies to such detections. The analysis of our community survey will offer valuable insights for law enforcement and awareness initiatives. Additionally, we plan to conduct more workshops to educate interagency departments and local communities about illegal wildlife trade, wildlife law, and policies.</p> <p><b>Improving capacity and</b></p>



Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p><b>Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>0.4 By quarter 4 year 3, 50% households of PFES (out of 1234 households participating in PFES in 2024) completed terms of contracts and successfully renewed agreements with Cat Tien National Park.</p> <p><b>Surrounding communities value biodiversity and disavow wildlife trade and consumption</b></p> <p>0.5 By quarter 4 year 3, the number of people in the post-surveys who value wildlife and biodiversity increases by at least 30% compared to pre-intervention surveys.</p> <p>0.6 By quarter 4 year 3, the number of people in the post-surveys who</p>	<p><b>Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>In year 2, we conducted 2 intensive theoretical training courses for the core members of PFES. We are in the process of coordinating with Cat Tien National Park to continue training skills and practice of SMART mobile for the core group, completing the Toolkit, and preparing training for all PFES members. These activities help achievement of <b>indicator 0.4</b>.</p> <p><b>Surrounding communities value biodiversity and disavow wildlife trade and consumption</b></p> <p>Our progress made in Year 2 focused on implementing our intervention to contribute to this outcome, which includes the series of billboards and posters and various media products. The intervention will take place in the communities for at least 12 months, and its impacts on the changing community perceptions toward</p>	<p><b>motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>We continue to provide intensive training to the core group, and with their support to train and support the entire PFES force at Cat Tien in the second and third quarters of Year 3. With the support of We, PFES members, will improve knowledge and skills and support rangers in patrolling and collecting data by SMART mobile. From there, evaluating the results at the end of the fourth quarter of year 3, they completed the contract requirements and had the opportunity to re-sign the agreement next year with Cat Tien National Park.</p> <p><b>Surrounding communities value biodiversity and disavow wildlife trade and consumption.</b></p> <p>We will contribute to the outcome through implementing restaurant campaign at the district level, organizing a series of community nights, as well as conducting our post-intervention survey to assess community's awareness, perceptions and associated behavior change as a result of our intervention. During the final year,</p>

Project Title: Dismantling illegal pangolin trade in Vietnam

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>would not be willing to consume wild meat products increases by at least 40% compared to pre-intervention surveys.</p>	<p>wildlife trade and consumption will be measured in our post-intervention surveys; hereby measuring our achievement of this Outcome through <b>Indicator 0.5</b> and <b>0.6</b>.</p>	<p>communication activities will also be maintained to ensure optimal reach and engagement with our demand reduction messages.</p>
<p><b>Output 1. Inter-agency law enforcement surrounding three key pangolin sites have established a formal partnership and have the capacity to understand IWT issues, collaborate intuitively, and utilise data sharing and technological advancements to combat illegal wildlife trade more effectively.</b></p>	<p>1.1 78 rangers in U Minh Thuong National Parks and U Minh Ha National Park complete SMART Mobile training by quarter 2 year 2 (30 in UMTNP and 48 in UMHNP).</p> <p>1.2 By quarter 4 of year 2, managers from three key sites are proficient in utilizing SMART data for decision-making and by quarter 4 of year 3, demonstrate a commitment to its continued integration beyond the project period.</p> <p>1.3 A list of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites was established by quarter 4 of year 2</p> <p>1.4 Knowledge of trafficking networks around three key sites was known by the end of year 3</p> <p>1.5 A formal collaboration among inter-agency law enforcement in three key sites was established by quarter 2 year 3 to tackle the IWT.</p>	<p>In Year 2, (<b>Indicator 1.1</b>) we conducted two training sessions on using SMART Mobile to collect data on illegal wildlife activities for 50 rangers of UMTNP and UMHNP. Other rangers of these two sites will be supported by our Anti-poaching team to develop their capacity in using SMART Mobile during the patrols. In total, 23 leaders from UMTNP, UMHNP, and CTNP underwent Advanced SMART training, enhancing their proficiency in data analysis and report generation. Currently, these parks have integrated SMART into their patrol regulations, with patrol performance evaluated based on SMART-collected data (<b>Indicator 1.2</b>). We created a database of 186 targeted hunters and traders in three key sites (<b>Indicator 1.3</b>). Ongoing investigation is still carried out to understand the local trafficking network's operation (<b>Indicator 1.4</b>). We're forging partnerships among interagency law enforcement departments to combat illegal wildlife activities. We initiated this effort by conducting four SMART training workshops, introducing the technology to various agencies such as the Dong Nai Forest Protection Department, Long Thanh Protective Forest Management Unit, and others. We continue to maintain the SMART Connect database, which encompasses data from three key project sites and Pu Mat National Park (<b>Indicator 1.5</b>). During the reporting period, five Sunda pangolins were seized near Cat Tien National Park and one near U Minh Thuong National Park. No large-scale operations occurred within the project's sites. In Dong Nai, six offenders received a combined 20-year sentence for illegally poaching in Cat Tien National Park and assaulting rangers (<b>Indicator 1.6</b>). We completed 11 commune-level workshops in the buffer zone of Cat Tien National Park with 1,215 individuals and installed a system of billboards to provide law enforcement information for local communities (<b>Indicator 1.7</b>).</p>	

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>1.6 Trend of pangolin seizures around three key sites was understood by quarter 4 year 3</p> <p>1.7 Local communities around three key sites are provided with knowledge about wildlife law by the end of year 3.</p>		
Activity 1.1 Four training courses on SMART with forest rangers		Completed four training courses on SMART for rangers, FPD and other agencies in three provinces	Keep training rangers on using SMART Mobile and SMART analysis and report.
Activity 1.2 Four training courses on illegal wildlife, collecting evidence, FirstAid, wildlife law, law enforcement lesson learnt Equipment purchased and dispersed for SMART program in key sites		<p>Completed four training courses on illegal wildlife, collecting evidence, FirstAid, wildlife law, law enforcement lessons learnt.</p> <p>Provided 71 smartphones, 130 two-way radio transceivers and 20 night vision binoculars for rangers in three key sites</p>	<p>Keep training rangers on using SMART Mobile and SMART analysis and report.</p> <p>Maintain the equipment</p>
Activity 1.3 Thailand trips for rangers and anti poaching members to learn law enforcement, poacherCam, and community forest protection.		Completed the visit trip to Thailand at two protected area	Keep contact with partners in Thailand for further exchange and updated information.
Activity 1.4 Extracting and analysing data of hunters and local traders around three key sites		Collected information of 171 hunters and traders around three key sites	Keep collecting information of hunters and traders and their connections/operations
Activity 1.5 Five workshops on strengthening law enforcement and action plan to combat illegal trade at 5 provinces: Ca Mau, Kien Gian g, Dong Nai, Lam Dong, Binh Phuoc		Working with three national parks and other department to prepare for the provincial-level workshops	Conduct five workshops in 5 provinces

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 1.6 Ten workshops on strengthening law enforcement and action plan to combat illegal trade for 10 districts (IWT issues, biodiversity, discuss ways to increase collaboration between police, rangers, anti-poaching teams, and local authorities, combat illegal trade action plan).		Working with three national parks and other department to prepare for the district-level workshops	Conduct ten workshops in 10 districts
Activity 1.7 Community survey in Cat Tien to assess baseline attitudes and knowledge on biodiversity, wildlife law enforcement & Vietnamese laws on wildlife crimes, and on hunting, trading and consuming wildlife.		Completed community survey around CTNP with 1054 interviews at 21 communes of three provinces in the bufferzone.	Analyse data and provide valuable insights into local attitudes toward wildlife and wildlife crimes
Activity 1.8 Twenty one one-day community workshops for 81 villages of 10 districts (IWT issues, biodiversity, law enforcement, livelihood alternatives, and to discuss ways to increase collaboration between police, rangers, anti-poaching teams, and local officials)		Completed 11 workshops with 1098 in 11 communes in the buffer zone of Cat Tien National Park	Hold 10 workshops in 10 commune
Activity 1.9 Annual meeting of performance evaluation		Held annual meetings with three national parks to discuss the project progress, address the challenges and lessons learnt.	Keep holding annual meetings with three national parks
Activity 1.10 Installing propaganda billboards around 3 National Parks and Dong Nai Nature Reserve		Completed installing 30 billboards in CTNP and 13 billboards in Dong Nai Natural Reserve, 7 billboards in UMTNP, 6 billboards in UMHNP	Proceed to complete acceptance of 13 billboards at UMTNP and 14 billboards at UMHNP. Completed handover of all 83 tables to 4 National park/ Reserve
<b>Output 2. Communities are educated about penalties and punishments associated with poaching, and are oriented toward sustainable sources of income, and turn away from illegal wildlife hunting and trade</b>	2.1 80% of PFES households are trained to participate in forest protection patrols and perform contract tasks with Cat Tien National Park, through 10 training workshops from Quarter 4 of Year 2 to Quarter 2 of Year 3.	In Year 2, the first two theoretical training sessions were organised at Cat Tien National Park, including 77 core members. Knowledge of the law, handling situations related to wildlife during forest patrols, commitment to not illegally using wild animals, and reporting violations of participators all increased after the training. All of these core members will train other households using toolkits, presentations, and films shared after the session.	

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>2.2 Knowledge and understanding towards penalties and punishments associated with poaching of PFES members increased after participating in the PFES training workshops.</p> <p>2.3 All PFES and rangers are provided and used an educational PFES training tool kit in their work between quarter 4 year 2 and quarter 4 year 3 to manage their designated forest areas.</p> <p>2.4 At the end of year 3, analysis of patrol results shows that at least 80% of PFES groups (47 groups, in 2024) participate in patrols and complete forest patrol data entry using SMART Mobile.</p>		
<p>Activity 2.1 Ten workshops for 1.250 PFES members. Women contracted by PFES are encouraged to join the training and provide accommodation for children if necessary</p>		<p>Completed 2 intensive training courses for 77 core members</p>	<p>Providing an PFES training tool kit and holding training for core members and 8 workshops in 10 commune</p>
<p><b>Output 3. Collaboration with local authorities and media towards demand reduction actions has been built and maintained; the first baseline toward demand reduction in 4 areas of 3 key sites created for conservation actions. A series of conservation actions toward demand reduction intervened in</b></p>	<p>3. 1 By quarter 1 year 2, an intervention proposal toward demand reduction of wildlife products at 3 key sites has been developed based on baseline from background research.</p> <p>3.2 By quarter 2 year 3, an action plan toward demand reduction for each province of 3 key sites has been issued to</p>	<p>Progress made in Year 2 towards Output 3 focused on establishing and maintaining connections with governmental agencies to implement a series of conservation intervention in the area and establish a baseline to change community awareness, attitudes, and wildlife consumption behaviors. Based on background research conducted in Year 1, we developed an intervention proposal around 3 key sites (<b>Indicator 3.1</b>). Significant efforts were made to connect with provincial government regarding the issuance of an action plan for implementing the campaign in each province (<b>Indicator 3.2</b>); however, many challenges were met. Currently, the action plan has been approved by Dong Nai and Ca Mau</p>	

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>the area for the first time to change community's awareness, attitude, and wildlife consumption behaviors.</b></p>	<p>implement the campaign.            3.3 From quarter 3 year 2 to quarter 4 year 3, a set of intervention activities (including billboard, poster, community nights) has been implemented widely around 3 key sites to take effect in the community.            3.4 By quarter 4 year 3, at least 80% of people surveyed say that they approve of the messages and visuals of the campaign materials.            3.5 By quarter 4 year 3, 80% of restaurants identified with wildlife sales have participated in the restaurant campaign and signed pledges to not sell wildlife products.            3.6 The community is engaged with messages and knowledge from the campaign through media products created and delivered on multimedia channels (television, Facebook, website) in year 1, year 2, year 3</p>	<p>province; and is under review by Kien Giang province. By quarter 2 year 3, a set of intervention and campaign materials were developed and widely distributed in 5 provinces of 3 key sites (<b>Indicator 3.3</b>) Community and local authority members have gained more interest, and engagement to messages and knowledge from the campaign. Our pre-intervention surveys conducted in 3 key sites also provided a baseline on attitudes, perspectives, and wildlife consumption behaviors of local communities that will be compared with post-surveys to assess the behavior change impacts of our campaign intervention, directly measuring <b>Indicator 3.4</b>. Restaurant campaign will be implemented in Year 3 to achieve <b>Indicator 3.5</b>. Progress in communication activities have culminated in the production of 2 short films and increased social media engagement with our campaign through online platforms (<b>Indicator 3.6</b>).</p>	
<p>Activity 3.1. Four small-scale background research in 4 areas of 3 key pangolin sites national park</p>		<p>Three background surveys were conducted around 3 key sites in Year 1 to gain an overview of demand reduction and to understand the attitudes, habits, and behaviours of 1622 local residents towards wildlife products. The results of these surveys will help in developing the project's</p>	<p>No action required</p>

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
		interventions to better address the actual situation in the buffer zone	
Activity 3.2. Two pre-intervention and two post-intervention surveys for delivering and evaluating campaign interventions		Two pre-intervention surveys were conducted in Year 2 with 405 people in in buffer zone of Cat Tien NP and 405 people in buffer zone of U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha NP. A total of 810 community members were surveyed and provided a baseline of community perceptions, attitudes and wildlife consumption patterns in each site prior to the intervention.	Two post-surveys will be carried out by the end of Year 3 to identify any changes in wild meat consumption and perspectives on consuming wild meat as a result of the intervention.
Activity 3.3. Five launching workshops to call on leaders and officers from governmental agencies, and journalists to participate in the program.		Despite constant challenges, we are making progress towards organizing the launching workshops in each province. The action plan, which includes the plan for the launching workshop, has been approved by Dong Nai and Ca Mau province; and is under review by Kien Giang province.	Once the review process is completed, we will organize the launching workshop in Dong Nai, Kien Giang, and Ca Mau. In the meantime, we will continue to follow up with Cat Tien National Park in connecting with Lam Dong and Binh Phuoc province.
Activity 3.4. Posters campaign: Install 2000 posters sized 60x80 cm with frame at governmental agencies' offices, restaurants, and public places in 10 towns and 18 communes of 10 districts (200 poster/district)		We completed the installation of 943 posters in administrative offices, community buildings and public spaces of 19 towns and communes in Dong Nai, Lam Dong, Binh Phuoc, and Kien Giang province.	400 posters will be installed in buffer zone communes and towns in Ca Mau province, marking the completion of the poster campaign.

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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.5. Billboard campaign: Installing 150 large two-size billboards in central locations, main roads and concentrated crowd areas in 10 towns and 18 communes of 10 districts (15 billboard/district)		We completed the production of 150 billboard frames.	The billboards will be installed in Y3 upon permission from the provincial government (due to the regulations associated with large-sized outdoor billboards).
Activity 3.6. Propaganda short films, communication work: Produce 3 propaganda films, work with local and national media/communication agencies		2 short films have been produced in collaboration with 3 site partners. The first one is a 30-min documentary highlighting the biodiversity of the parks and the stories of people who devoted their lives to protecting the forests. The second production is a 5-min Public Service Announcement integrated with animation to provoke emotions and spread demand reduction messages to the general public.	We are working with national and local media channels to broadcast these films in Year 3.
Activity 3.7. Media cost for Demand Reduction Program: Facebook, website, and media agencies.		We contracted with a communication agency to revamp our social media presence and execute a well-designed social plan for our Facebook page and website. After 8-month support, our Facebook page grew from 500 to 6,000 likes with significant increase in average reach and interactions.	Given the positive results in collaboration, we will renew our contract with this agency to continue spreading information and messages about the demand reduction campaign on social media platforms in Year 3.
Activity 3.8. Community Nights: Organise 36 Community Nights at 18 communes (2 night/commune)		We have developed a detailed plan (including budget, programming agenda, personnel) for this activity and have discussed the plan with our site partners.	The series of community nights will be organized in Year 3.



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Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.9. Restaurant campaign: Working with local authorities and relevant governmental bodies to involve identified restaurants selling wildlife in 10 districts		We have obtained an initial list of restaurants selling wildlife in the area, however, further investigation and verification is required. We have also developed a detailed plan (including budget, activity plan, personnel) and discussed the plan with site partners.	The restaurant campaign will be implemented in Year 3.

**Annex 2: Project’s full current logframe as presented in the application form**

**Table 1: Project Standard Indicators**

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<b>Impact:</b> Illegal wildlife trade chain in Vietnam is dismantled from the bottom up			

<p><b>Outcome:</b>  <b>Poaching and IWT-threatened species within and surrounding key sites has decreased by 30%.</b></p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%</b></p> <p>0.1 Number of illegal activities (hunting and snaring threatened species) in Cat Tien National Park decreased by 30% at the end of the project</p> <p>0.2 SMART baselines have been fully established within U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha national parks and being used by SVW and two national parks to monitor patrol activity</p> <p>0.3 10% of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites were arrested at the end of the project</p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%</b></p> <p>0.1.1 A technical report comparing the number of hunting and snaring (offenders, traps, guns, encampments) recorded in Cat Tien National Park before and after the project started.</p> <p>0.1.2 A technical report of the number of illegal accesses captured by PoacherCams and the following arrests in three sites</p> <p>0.2.1 Annual SMART reports of U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha national parks</p> <p>0.2.2 A technical report of SMART baselines in U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha national parks</p> <p>0.3.1 A list of targeted hunters and traders surrounding three key protected areas</p> <p>0.3.2 A correspondence of joint force in investigating and eradicating wildlife trade networks in three key site</p> <p>0.3.3 A report of targeted hunters and traders who were arrested in three key sites</p>	<p><b>Poaching and IWT of threatened species within and surrounding key sites has reduced by 30%</b></p> <p>0.1.1 All rangers will be willing to adopt the new data collection model and share poaching data for comparative analysis</p> <p>0.1.2 We are able to obtain documents and data of violations of three sites before 2021 to make comparative analyses of hunting and snaring data before and after the period of project.</p> <p>0.2.1 Manager boards of three key sites are willing to use SMART to monitor patrol activity in their sites.</p> <p>0.3.1 Local communities are willing to share information of wildlife hunters and traders in their areas.</p> <p>0.3.2 Local authorities are willing to collaborate with one another</p> <p>0.3.3 Capacity of local law enforcements has been built to arrest targeted hunters and traders in the area</p>
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<p><b>Communities continue to receive benefits from PFES</b></p>	<p><b>Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>0.4 By quarter 4 year 3, 50% households of PFES (out of 1234 households participating in PFES in 2024) completed terms of contracts and successfully renewed agreements with Cat Tien National Park.</p>	<p><b>Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>0.4 List of households continuing to renew agreements and receive PFES payments verified by Cat Tien National Park.</p>	<p><b>Improving capacity and motivating sustainable livelihoods from PFES for people directly affected by IWT</b></p> <p>0.4.1 All households in the PFES program are willing to stay in the program. 0.4.2 No households in the PFES program is removed due to changes in the national budget for PFES.</p>
<p><b>Surrounding communities value biodiversity and disavow wildlife trade/consumption.</b></p>	<p><b>Reducing demand for IWT products</b></p> <p>0.5 By quarter 4 year 3, the number of people in the post-surveys who value wildlife and biodiversity increases by at least 30% compared to pre-intervention surveys.</p> <p>0.6 By quarter 4 year 3, the number of people in the post-surveys who would not be willing to consume wild meat products increases by at least 40% compared to pre-intervention surveys.</p>	<p><b>Reducing demand for IWT products</b></p> <p>0.5 A comparative evaluation report in the project sites which use the data of pre and post-intervention surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention (data collected from a set of questions in the surveys about perception towards wildlife).</p> <p>0.6 A comparative evaluation report in the project sites which use the data of pre and post-intervention surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention (data collected from a set of questions in the surveys about future intention of wildlife consumption).</p>	<p><b>Reducing demand for IWT products.</b></p> <p>0.5 People who approved messages and visuals of the campaign materials will value wildlife and biodiversity.</p> <p>0.6 People who approved messages and visuals of the campaign materials will not consume wild meat products in the future.</p>

<p><b>Output 1: Inter-agency law enforcement surrounding three key pangolin sites have established a formal partnership and have the capacity to understand IWT issues, collaborate intuitively, and utilise data sharing and technological advancements to combat illegal wildlife trade more effectively.</b></p>	<p>1.1 78 rangers in U Minh Thuong National Parks and U Minh Ha National Park complete SMART Mobile training by quarter 2 year 2 (30 in UMTNP and 48 in UMHNP).</p> <p>1.2 By quarter 4 of year 2, managers from three key sites are proficient in utilizing SMART data for decision-making and by quarter 4 of year 3, demonstrate a commitment to its continued integration beyond the project period.</p> <p>1.3 A list of targeted hunters and traders in three key sites was established by quarter 4 of year 2</p> <p>1.4 Knowledge of trafficking networks around three key sites was known by the end of year 3</p> <p>1.5 A formal collaboration among inter-agency law enforcement in three key sites was established by quarter 2 year 3 to tackle the IWT.</p> <p>1.6 Trend of pangolin seizures around three key sites was understood by quarter 4 year 3</p> <p>1.7 Local communities around three key sites are provided with knowledge about wildlife law by the end of year 3.</p>	<p>1.1.1 A report of evaluation of proficiency in using SMART Mobile of rangers in three key sites after trainings</p> <p>1.1.2 A report of performance of rangers using SMART data</p> <p>1.2.1 Monthly report and patrol plan based on SMART data produced by stations' leaders</p> <p>1.2.2 A report of evaluation of proficiency in SMART analysis and report of rangers in three key sites after trainings</p> <p>1.2.3 An official document issued by each protected area to integrate SMART in their requirements/training for rangers</p> <p>1.3.1 A list of hunters and traders in three key sites collected from community survey</p> <p>1.3.2 A list of hunters and traders in three key sites collected from SMART data</p> <p>1.4.1 A technical report of trafficking network around three key sites</p> <p>1.5.1 A formal document of</p>	<p>1.1.1 Government remains committed to adopting new software solutions, sharing data, and taking appropriate actions when offenders are caught.</p> <p>1.1.2 Patrol equipment is effectively maintained throughout the project period</p> <p>1.1.3 SMART database is maintained properly by data managers in three sites.</p> <p>1.2.1 Local law enforcement adopts recommendations on wildlife protection and monitoring guidelines for each key site</p> <p>1.3.1 Surveys go as planned with permission from local governments.</p> <p>1.5.1 Site managers are willing to share patrolling and anti-poaching data between one another</p> <p>1.6.1 Information on pangolin seizure cases can be accessed through government agencies, public news, public database, etc.</p>
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		<p>collaboration among local police, FPD, park rangers in three key sites to tackle IWT</p> <p>1.5.2 A report of inter-agency operation to dismantle IWT in three key sites</p> <p>1.5.3 SMART Connect server established and coordinated between SMART data managers and law enforcement stakeholders</p> <p>1.6.1 A report of pangolin seizure cases around three key sites</p> <p>1.6.2 A report of pangolin hunting inside three protected areas</p> <p>1.7.1 A Technical report on awareness of local communities about law enforcement after commune workshops.</p> <p>1.7.2 A system of law enforcement billboards in public spaces, main entrances to national parks around 3 key sites.</p>	
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<p><b>Output 2 : Communities are educated about penalties and punishments associated with poaching, and are oriented toward sustainable sources of income, and turn away from illegal wildlife hunting and trade</b></p>	<p>2.1 80% of PFES households are trained to participate in forest protection patrols and perform contract tasks with Cat Tien National Park, through 10 training workshops from Quarter 4 of Year 2 to Quarter 2 of Year 3.</p> <p>2.2 Knowledge and understanding towards penalties and punishments associated with poaching of PFES members increased after participating in the PFES training workshops.</p> <p>2.3 All PFES and rangers are provided and used an educational PFES training tool kit in their work between quarter 4 year 2 and quarter 4 year 3 to manage their designated forest areas.</p> <p>2.4 At the end of year 3, analysis of patrol results shows that at least 80% of PFES groups (47 groups, in 2024) participate in patrols and complete forest patrol data entry using SMART Mobile.</p>	<p>2.1 List of workshop participants and certificates of participation in the training course.</p> <p>2.2.1 An evaluation form used for pre-and post-training workshop surveys</p> <p>2.2.2 A technical report on training activities, discussion, and assessment of changes in attitudes, knowledge, and skills of participants.</p> <p>2.3.1 Education PFES training tool kits, and the guide on how to use the tool kits.</p> <p>2.3.2 An evaluation form template developed for PFES and rangers using the tool kit.</p> <p>2.4.1 A monitor plan and monthly report template developed for PFES and rangers to update their implementation and use of the provided tool kit.</p> <p>2.4.2 A report evaluating patrol results and entering forest patrol data using SMART Mobile authenticated by Cat Tien National Park.</p> <p>2.4.3 SMART patrol reports and statistics from local authorities on illegal poaching activities.</p>	<p>2.1.1 Cat Tien National Park, government agencies allow and support the implementation of the training course</p> <p>2.1.2 Training took place as scheduled without interruption.</p> <p>2.2 Households receiving PFES participate in the full training, as well as complete pre- and post-training workshop surveys.</p> <p>2.3 Rangers and PFES members actively use the education toolkit during patrols and training.</p> <p>2.4.1 All ranger stations and PFES groups have enough equipment to patrol forests and collect patrol data using SMART mobile.</p> <p>2.4.2 PFES rangers use evaluation form to assess the performance of PFES members</p>
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<p><b>Output 3: Collaboration with local authorities and media towards demand reduction actions has been built and maintained; the first baseline toward demand reduction in 4 areas of 3 key sites created for conservation actions. A series of conservation actions toward demand reduction intervened in the area for the first time to change community's awareness, attitude, and wildlife consumption behaviors.</b></p>	<p>3.1 By quarter 1 year 2, an intervention proposal toward demand reduction of wildlife products at 3 key sites has been developed based on baseline from background research.</p> <p>3.2 By quarter 2 year 3, an action plan toward demand reduction for each province of 3 key sites has been issued to implement the campaign.</p> <p>3.3 From quarter 3 year 2 to quarter 4 year 3, a set of intervention activities (including billboard, poster, community nights) has been implemented widely around 3 key sites to take effect in the community.</p> <p>3.4 By quarter 4 year 3, at least 80% of people surveyed say that they approve of the messages and visuals of the campaign materials.</p> <p>3.5 By quarter 4 year 3, 80% of restaurants identified with wildlife sales have participated in the restaurant campaign and signed pledges to not sell wildlife products.</p> <p>3.6 The community is engaged with messages and knowledge from the campaign through media products created and delivered on multimedia channels (television, Facebook, website) in year 1, year 2, year 3.</p>	<p>3.1.1 Three research finding analysis report</p> <p>3.1. 2 One proposal of intervention development</p> <p>3.2.1 Five action plans have been signed and stamped by local authority leaders (i.e. Provincial People's Committee), and issued to lower-level government agencies of 5 provinces in 3 key sites for implementation.</p> <p>3.2.2 A list of launching workshop participants in each site.</p> <p>3.2.3 Media materials of launching workshop released.</p> <p>3.3.1 Designs of all campaign interventions (posters and billboards)</p> <p>3.3.2 Official document of billboards and poster acceptance and detailed distribution plan signed by the government of 10 towns and 18 communes. (1/commune or town)</p> <p>3.3.3 A system of intervention billboards and posters in public spaces of 10 towns and 18 communes around 3 key sites (Example: main routes, markets, etc).</p> <p>3.3.4 Community nights are organized in 18 communes around 3 key sites.</p> <p>3.4.1 A comparative report</p>	<p>3.1 Three (3) small-scale background research occurred as planned.</p> <p>3.2 Launching workshops occurred as planned with key targeted participants.</p> <p>3.3 Intervention delivery occurred as planned.</p> <p>3.4 Comparative evaluation reports between pre-post intervention surveys show our project has an effect on communities' awareness, attitude, and behaviour towards wildlife consumption and trade at each key site.</p> <p>3.6 Restaurant owners are willing to sign the pledge to not advertise, sell, and trade wildmeat.</p> <p>3.6 Restaurant owners commit to the pledge and do not sell wild meat discreetly.</p> <p>3.7 Media agencies actively broadcast and promote information about campaign activities and materials.</p>
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		<p>between pre-intervention and post-intervention surveys.</p> <p>3.5.1 List of restaurants selling wildlife around 3 key sites</p> <p>3.5.2 Copy of pledges signed by restaurants.</p> <p>3.6.1 Three (3) short films produced.</p> <p>3.6.2 News clippings/evidence of short films and media materials broadcasted on local or national television.</p> <p>3.6.3 Report on social media and website engagement.</p>	
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**Activities**

- 1.1 Four training courses on SMART with forest rangers
- 1.2 Four training courses on illegal wildlife, collecting evidence, FirstAid, wildlife law, law enforcement lesson learned; equipment purchased and dispersed for SMART program in key sites
- 1.3 Thailand trips for rangers and anti poaching members to learn law enforcement, poacherCam, and community forest protection.
- 1.4 Extracting and analysing data of hunters and local traders around three key sites
- 1.5 Five workshops on strengthening law enforcement and action plan to combat illegal trade at 5 provinces: Ca Mau, Kien Giang, Dong Nai, Lam Dong, Binh Phuoc
- 1. 6 Ten workshops on strengthening law enforcement and action plan to combat illegal trade for 10 districts (IWT issues, biodiversity, discuss ways to increase collaboration between police, rangers, anti-poaching teams, and local authorities, combat illegal trade action plan).
- 1.7 Community survey in Cat Tien to assess baseline attitudes and knowledge on biodiversity, wildlife law enforcement & Vietnamese laws on wildlife crimes, and on hunting, trading and consuming wildlife.
- 1.8 Twenty-one one-day community workshops for 81 villages of 10 districts (IWT issues, biodiversity, law enforcement, livelihood alternatives, and to discuss ways to increase collaboration between police, rangers, anti-poaching teams, and local officials)
- 1.9 Annual meeting of performance evaluation
- 1.10 Installing propaganda billboards around 3 National Parks and Dong Nai Nature Reserve



- 2.1. Ten training workshops for 1.250 PFES members. Women contracted by PFES are encouraged to join the training and provide accommodation for children if necessary
- 3.1. Four small-scale background research in 4 areas of 3 key pangolin sites national park
- 3.2. Two pre-intervention and two post-intervention surveys for delivering and evaluating campaign interventions
- 3.3. Five launching workshops to call on leaders and officers from governmental agencies, and journalists to participate in the program.
- 3.4. Poster campaign: Install 2000 posters sized 60x80 cm with frame at governmental agencies' offices, restaurants, and public places in 10 towns and 18 communes of 10 districts (200 poster/district)
- 3.5. Billboard campaign: Installing 150 large two-size billboards in central locations, main roads and concentrated crowd areas in 10 towns and 18 communes of 10 districts (15 billboard/district)
- 3.6. Propaganda short films, communication work: Produce 3 propaganda films, work with local and national media/communication agencies
- 3.7. Media cost for Demand Reduction Program: Facebook, website, and media agencies.
- 3.8. Community nights: Organize 36 community nights at 18 communes (2 nights/commune)
- 3.9. Restaurant campaign: Working with local authorities and relevant governmental bodies to involve identified restaurants selling wildlife in 10 districts.

**Table 2: Publications**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Type</b> (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	<b>Detail</b> (authors, year)	<b>Gender of Lead Author</b>	<b>Nationality of Lead Author</b>	<b>Publishers</b> (name, city)	<b>Available from</b> (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Billboard and poster design *	Design	Do My Linh. 2023	Female	Vietnamese		
Billboard law enforcement	Design	Vu Duc Trong and Le Thi Kim Ngan, 2023		Vietnamese		

Project Title: Dismantling illegal pangolin trade in Vietnam

**Annex 4: Onwards – supplementary material**

N/A

**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 <b>correct template</b> (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and <b>deleted the blue guidance text</b> before submission?	Yes
<b>Is the report less than 10MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> putting the project number in the subject line.	Yes
<b>Is your report more than 10MB?</b> If so, please discuss with <a href="mailto:BCF-Reports@niras.com">BCF-Reports@niras.com</a> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	No
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report?</b> 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.	No
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	Yes
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	No
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	